

For newly recognized legal adults:

Beware of consumer issues and scams

18歳から成年。消費者トラブルに注意 ひろしま市民と市政 10月1日号 (P2)

Japan's legal age of adulthood is now 18. Once you are legally an adult, you can enter into contracts without your parental consent. On the other hand, young adults will have to take responsibility for any issues which may arise when entering contracts and must understand the terms and conditions when signing a contract.

Advertisements and posts on the internet and social media sometimes include misleading content and tricks targeting young adults and can easily become the target of malicious businesses, such contracts/subscriptions for aesthetic and medicinal products and services, and get-rich quick scheme investments and side business. Young adults need to be aware of these scams in order to avoid trouble in the future.

👉 Things you can do to avoid consumer issues:

1. Read the terms and conditions carefully before signing any contracts, take a step back, and evaluate the situation by asking whether you truly need the service or not.
2. Don't trust anything that promises quick and easy money. Do not hesitate to refuse if you feel uneasy or worried; for example, if they demand a large sum of money.
3. Before taking out a loan or applying for a credit card, carefully consider whether the terms and condition suit your income level.

👉 If you are worried about how to deal with the situation, please consult with:

Hiroshima City Consumer Affairs Center (*Shōhi Seikatsu Santā*)

Hours: 10 am-7 pm (except for Tuesdays, and December 29-January3)

Address: 6-27 Moto-machi, Naka-ku AQ'A Hiroshima Center City 8F

Tel: 082-225-3300 Email: shouhi@city.hiroshima.lg.jp

- ▶ Consumer issue consultations are available in-person, and via phone and e-mail. Speech translation app available for 12 languages at the Center.