

SUPPORTING THE EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES



Introduction

How wonderful it would be if everyone could find a job suited to his or her aptitude and lead a meaningful life. Our mission is to create a society in which all people, with or without disabilities, participate equally in society to realize the ideal of "full participation and equality." It would be a great pity if people with the willingness and ability to work were not employed simply because they have disabilities; this should not occur under any circumstances.

Understanding among employers and others involved in the disability employment has been increasing. Many persons with disabilities are playing active roles in society through their own initiative, and their employment has been steadily improving in recent years; however, many persons with disabilities in Japan are still facing difficulties finding work.

Amid this situation, efforts to advance the social participation of persons with disabilities have become livelier than ever based on developments such as the enactment of the services and Support for Persons with Disabilities Act. It appears that the movement "from welfare to employment" will continue to advance in the future, and this must be promoted steadily.

Therefore, in order to further promote the disability employment, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and the Japan Organization for Employment of the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities intend to promote in an integrated manner effective and efficient measures in accordance with the needs of the times. We would very much like employers, persons with disabilities, and other parties involved to fully understand these programs and measures and cooperate in realizing a "Society for All," where everyone has an occupation through which they can contribute to society.

We wish for persons with disabilities to utilize this guide in order to take advantage of the services provided by the various organizations and facilities seeking to support their proactive participation in society. We would also appreciate employers using it to provide a foothold to persons with disabilities as a means for their social independence.

2009

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
Japan Organization for Employment of the Elderly and
Persons with Disabilities (JEED)

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