

Comply with the Hotel Business Act

Any person who intends to run a hotel business **must obtain a license** from the prefectural governor* pursuant to the Hotel Business Act.

*In a city with a health center or in a special ward, the licensing authority is the mayor of the city or the mayor of the ward.

Operating without a license **constitutes a violation of the Hotel Business Act**, and **orders and penalties** under the Act may be imposed.

Orders and Penalties Applicable to Unlicensed Operators

- **Collection of reports and on-site inspections**
(Article 7, paragraph (2) of the Hotel Business Act)
- **Emergency orders such as suspension of business**
(Article 7-2, paragraph (3) of the Hotel Business Act)
- **Imprisonment for not more than six months or a fine of not more than 1,000,000 yen for operating without a license**
(Article 10, item (i) of the Hotel Business Act)
- **A fine of not more than 500,000 yen for violations related to the collection of reports and on-site inspections**
(Article 11, item (ii) of the Hotel Business Act)
- **A fine of not more than 500,000 yen for violations of emergency orders such as suspension of business**
(Article 11, item (iii) of the Hotel Business Act)
- **Fines under the dual criminal liability provision**
(Article 13 of the Hotel Business Act; the fine amounts under the respective Articles apply)

Please be vigilant to prevent unlicensed operations and **ensure the proper operation of hotel businesses**.

If a foreign national conducts illegal operations and is subject to orders or penalties, **the prefectural government or other relevant authority will provide information to the competent Regional Immigration Services Bureau or District Immigration Office. This may affect decisions regarding changes to status of residence or extension of the period of stay.**