

IV-2 Necessary Procedures for Residence in Japan

1. Reentry Permit (When you temporarily leave Japan)

When temporarily leaving Japan within the validity period of your visa, you may obtain a reentry permit in order to enter Japan upon your return. The permit is valid for up to five years (but it cannot exceed your period of stay in Japan) and is available in single and multiple reentry forms. However, if your visa status is short-term, you are not entitled to obtain a reentry permit. The following documents are required for application:

- ① Application for reentry permit (This can be found at the reception desk of your local Regional Immigration Bureau.)
- ② Resident Card (Appendix IV-1)
- ③ Passport
- ④ 3,000 yen revenue stamp (for single reentry permits), 6,000 yen revenue stamp (for multiple reentry permits)

Reentry permits are usually issued on the day you apply. Applications in Osaka Prefecture are taken at the Osaka Regional Immigration Bureau.

The new Special Reentry Permit System allows foreign holders of valid passports and Resident Cards to reenter Japan without applying for a reentry permit, provided the foreign resident is returning to Japan within one year of departure and will resume his or her previous activities in Japan. In order to benefit from this system, please present your resident card to Immigration when you depart from Japan.

2. Extension of Period of Stay

There is a time limit to the length of stay you have been permitted in Japan. If you wish to extend this stay to continue the same activity you are currently engaged in, you must apply for renewal and obtain a permit. Applications can be made within three months of the limit of your current period of stay. The following documents are required:

- ① Application Form for extending your period of stay (This can be found at the receptionist's desk in your local Regional Immigration Bureau.)
- ② Passport
- ③ Resident Card
- ④ Documents that verify your activities in Japan, past, present and future (planned). (We recommend that you inquire in regard to the required documents at the Osaka Immigration Information Center (Appendix IX—2) as they differ with each status. The Ministry of Justice Immigration Services Agency of Japan also provides information on its homepage.)
- ⑤ Photo

Permit

Whether you are approved to remain in Japan or not will be determined by reviewing the documents you submit. The fact that a decision regarding your status is pending will be recorded on the back of your Resident Card when you apply. If your application is accepted, you will be issued a new Resident Card if you are a Mid- or Long-Term Resident.

3. Changing Residential Status from Current Permit Status

If you have a valid resident permit, but you start an activity categorized as requiring a different type of resident permit, you need to apply for a change in your status of residence. Under this system, you can change your resident status to a different category without leaving Japan (even temporarily). Please apply after the things requiring you to change your resident status

have happened and before your current permit expires.

Required documents differ depending on which status of residence you apply for, so please ask the Osaka Immigration Information Center. For further information, see the Immigration Bureau website:

URL http://www.moj.go.jp/ONLINE/IMMIGRATION/ZAIRYU_HENKO/zairyu_henko10.html

(in Japanese only)

4. Permission to Engage in Activities Other Than Those Permitted by Your Current Status of Residence

If you engage in any work not included in the activities permitted by your current status of residence, it will be regarded as illegal employment. For example, when an international student wishes to work at even a part time job, s/he must apply for “Permission to Engage in Activities Other Than Those Permitted by Current Status of Residence”. Before engaging in a full or part time job, please obtain permission from the Regional Immigration Bureau.

If you are arriving in Japan with “Student” status, it is now possible for you to apply for Permission to Engage in Activities Other Than Those Permitted by Current Status of Residence when you land at the airport (except for those whose stay will not exceed three months).

Necessary Documents

- ① Application form for “Permission to Engage in Activities Other Than Those Permitted by Current Status of Residence”
- ② Resident Card
- ③ Passport
- ④ Document that provides proof of your planned activity