

IV-5 Death

1. Death Notification

In the event that a foreign national dies in Japan, the same legal procedures are required as for Japanese citizens: notification must be submitted to the local municipality office no later than seven days after confirmation of the death. Only a licensed physician or medical examiner may validly confirm death in Japan, whatever the case may be.

If you are to report the death of a foreign national, you need to have a physician confirm the death and prepare a death certificate. The death certificate should be submitted to the authorities of the municipality where the death occurred or you reside. You should return the deceased's resident card to the Regional Immigration Bureau by mail or in person, or send it to the Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau(*) Also, please perform any procedures required by the deceased's country of origin. The required procedures may differ depending on the country, so please check with the relevant embassy or consulate in Japan. (Appendix IX—5).

(*) Mail resident card to: Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau, Odaiba Office
9F, Godo-chosha, Tokyo Wangan
2-7-11 Oume, Koto-Ward, Tokyo 135-0064

2. Burials

In densely populated Osaka Prefecture, there are few cemeteries for burial. Consult the respective consulate or equivalent (Appendix IX—5) if the deceased person's body is not allowed to be cremated and must be buried under the earth due to his/her religion, beliefs or other customs, or if you plan to transfer the body to his/her native country.