

## ■ Q&A

**Q 1** What activities are permitted under the status of residence of “Designated Activities” for digital nomad during their stay in Japan?

A 1 With the status of residence of “Designated Activities” for digital nomad, you may engage in the following two activities during your stay in Japan. However, employment activities with a public or private organization in Japan or an individual in Japan under an employment contract or a contractor agreement are not permitted. In addition, it is not granted to engage in activity other than that permitted under the status of residence previously granted in principle.

- ① Activities that involve using information and communication technology in Japan to engage in business of the organization’s business office located in a foreign country, based on an employment contract with a corporation or other foreign organization established in accordance with the laws and regulations of a foreign country (e.g., activities in which employees of a foreign company remotely engage in business activities of the foreign establishment).
- ② Activities that involve providing services for a fee or selling goods, etc. to persons located in a foreign country using information and communication technology (excluding those activities which cannot be provided or sold, etc. without entering Japan). (e.g., a manager of a foreign company, a sole proprietor who provides services to a foreign company or a person in a foreign country)

**Q 2** While in Japan under the status of residence of “Designated Activities” for digital nomad, may I enter into a contract with someone I met in Japan and start a new job?

A 2 While staying in Japan under the status of residence of “Designated Activities” for digital nomad, it is not possible to work with a Japanese company or individual under an employment contract or a contractor agreement.

**Q 3** What is the maximum period of stay allowed under the status residence of “Designated Activities” for digital nomad? After the period of stay has expired, can I re-enter Japan under the status of residence of “Designated Activities” for digital nomad?

A 3 The maximum period of stay in Japan under the status of residence of "Designated Activities" for digital nomad is six months, and renewal of the period of stay is not permitted. On the other hand, once six months have passed after leaving Japan, you can re-enter Japan with the status of residence of "Designated Activities" for digital nomad.

Q 4 I would like to stay in various cities during my stay in Japan under the status of residence of "Designated Activities" for digital nomad, do I have to follow any special procedures?

A 4 No special procedures are required.

Q 5 If I enter Japan with the status of residence of "Designated Activities" for digital nomad, will I be issued a residence card?

A 5 Residence cards are issued to "mid- to long-term residents," but those who stay in Japan under the status of residence of "Designated Activities" for digital nomad do not fall under the category of "mid- to long-term residents" under the law and therefore you will not receive a residence card.

Q 6 After entering Japan with the status of residence of "Designated Activities" for digital nomad, can I leave Japan and return to Japan with this status of residence?

A 6 If you are staying in Japan under the status of residence of "Designated Activities" for digital nomad and intend to leave Japan temporarily with the intention of re-entering Japan before the expiration date of your period of stay, you can leave Japan with a re-entry permission or special re-entry permission in the same way as a "medium- to long-term resident" and if you return to Japan before the expiration date of your period of stay, you can maintain the status of residence.

Q 7 Am I obligated to pay income tax if I stay in Japan under the status of Digital Nomad?

A 7 Remuneration earned by digital nomad for activities carried out in Japan is eligible to tax exemption in Japan if it meets the requirements of the tax convention, which in most cases include one while staying in Japan for 183 days or less during the taxable year or any consecutive 12-month period (requirements vary depending on the tax convention).

However, the persons are not eligible to tax exemption if they do not meet the requirements stipulated in the tax convention with Japan (for example, if the total number of days stayed in Japan exceeds 183 days, or if the salary is paid by an employer who is a resident of Japan), or if the taxpayer comes to Japan from a country that is not a party to a tax convention with Japan.

※ Please refer to the following websites about the contents of the tax convention between Japan and each country.

[https://www.mof.go.jp/english/policy/tax\\_policy/tax\\_conventions/tax\\_convention\\_list\\_en.html](https://www.mof.go.jp/english/policy/tax_policy/tax_conventions/tax_convention_list_en.html)

**Q 8** Can I bring a PC or smartphone that I bought in my home country to Japan and use it?

**A 8** In order to use Wi-Fi or Bluetooth devices in Japan, they must conform to Japanese technical standards and bear the Technical Conformity Mark.

However, devices that do not bear the Technical Conformity Mark may be used for 90 days after entering Japan as long as they conform to the Japanese technical standards and international standards (with a Wi-Fi logo or Bluetooth logo).

If you want to use a device for more than 90 days, make sure that it bears the Technical Conformity Mark.

Even if the device you brought from your home country does not bear the Technical Conformity Mark, it can be used for more than 90 days after entry if the device itself does not directly emit radio waves, for example, by wired connection to a mobile Wi-Fi device (limited to a device bearing the Technical Conformity Mark) rented in Japan.

For more information, visit the following website:

<https://www.tele.soumu.go.jp/e/index.htm>

**Q 9** Regarding the requirement that "Annual income of an applicant must be at least 10 million yen," in what cases can you say that the requirement is met?

**A 9** In principle, the most recent annual income of an applicant must be 10 million yen or more. However, for example, a case is also considered to meet the requirement, in which annual income of an applicant is expected to be 10 million yen or more from the time of application due to a salary increase

in the current fiscal year.

In addition, a case can be evaluated to meet the requirement, in which a new employee is hired in the current fiscal year and is paid 10 million yen per year.

On the other hand, in the case of a business contract or sales contract as a sole proprietor, the requirement is evaluated based not on, but on the contract amount on the amount of profit after deducting necessary overhead expenses.

In addition, if you have multiple incomes, such as contracts with multiple startups, and if they are considered stable incomes, can be combined and evaluated as annual income of 10 million yen or more, it can be said that you meet the requirement.

**Q 1 0** What is the purpose of the requirement to purchase medical insurance and what are the coverage items of the medical insurance?

**A 1 0** The purpose of this requirement is to ensure that they can appropriately cope with unforeseen circumstances, since those staying in Japan with this status of residence do not fall under the category of "mid- to long-term residents" as described in A5 above and are not eligible to enroll in Japan's public medical insurance. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Japanese government can appropriately deal with unforeseen circumstances. Regarding compensation items, death, injury, or illness during the stay in Japan must be covered. Specifically, the amount of compensation for medical treatment must be 10 million yen or more for injuries and illnesses, and for death, compensation must include transportation of the body or insurance payment in the event of death. There is no stipulation on the amount of compensation for death.

**Q 1 1** Can an agent apply for an Application for Certificate of Eligibility if the applicant is in a country other than Japan?

**A 1 1** As for the status of residence of "Designated Activities" for digital nomad, since there is no one in Japan to act as an agent for the Application for Certificate of Eligibility, if the applicant is outside Japan, please apply for a visa directly at the embassy or consulate of the country where you are staying.