



Immigration Services Agency

2024–2025



Connect the World. Create the Future.

Immigration Services Agency

Connect the World. Create the Future.

The Role of the Immigration Services Agency

The basic function of immigration control and residency management is, while respecting human rights, to ensure the just management of immigration and residency of foreign nationals, to protect refugees, and to provide general coordination relating to improving the circumstances for the acceptance of foreign nationals.

As such, in working toward smooth yet strict immigration control and residency management, the Immigration Services Agency (ISA) actively welcomes foreign nationals who follow the rules, while at the same time preventing the entry and residence of those who threaten the nation's safety and security, ensuring they are not able to stay in Japan. The ISA also seeks to cooperate with other countries and international organizations to protect those who truly need it in a timely and reliable manner.

Additionally, we work with related organizations to realize a society of harmonious coexistence where all Japanese citizens and foreign nationals accepted into Japanese society which can live together as good neighbors. Our goal is to contribute to the realization of an orderly society and to the sound development of Japan's economy and society.

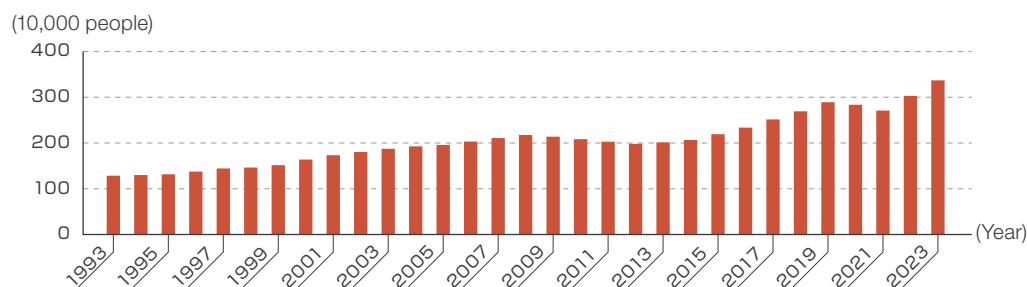


Current Situation Regarding Foreign Nationals

As the number of foreign nationals living and working in Japan increases, the role of the ISA has become more important than ever in order for the country to become a tourism-oriented nation while countering international terrorism.

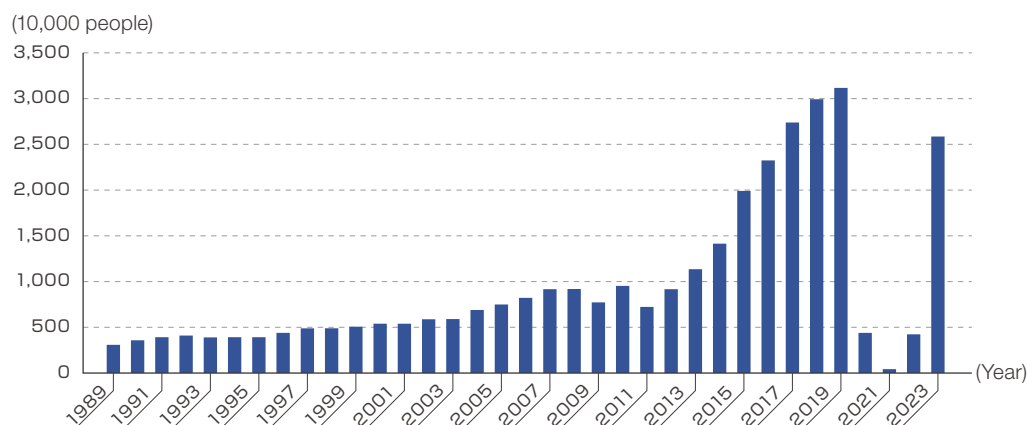
Changes in the Number of foreign residents

Approx. 3.41 million as of the end of 2023.
Up approx. 2.6 times from 30 years ago.



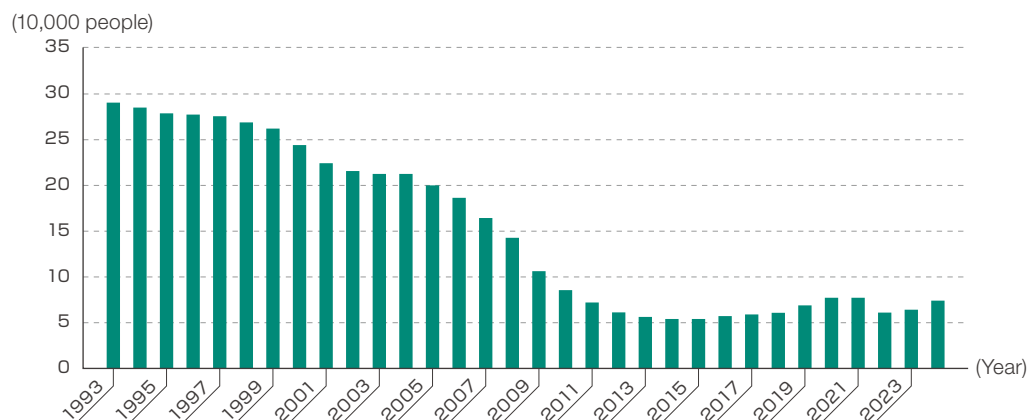
Changes in the Number of foreign nationals entering Japan

Approx. 25.83 million in 2023.
Back to approx. 80% of the pre-COVID level.



Changes in the estimated Number of foreign nationals overstaying the authorized period of stay

Recently approx. 70,000
(approx. 300,000 in 1993)



Basic Plan for Immigration Control and Residency Management

Basic Policy for the Basic Plan for Immigration Control and Residency Management (April 2019)



Proactive acceptance of foreign nationals who vitalizing the Japanese economy and society.

Promotion of international contributions to developing countries, etc., and promotion of optimization of the technical intern training program from the perspective of protection of the technical intern trainees.

Preparation of an environment for the realization of a society of harmonious coexistence with foreign nationals who have been accepted by Japan.

Contribution to the realization of a tourism-oriented country through the implementation of fast and smooth immigration procedures for foreign nationals visiting Japan.

Reinforcement of strict and proper immigration examinations and residency management and countermeasures against illegal residents, etc. in order to realize a safe and secure society.

Promotion of appropriate and prompt asylum for refugees in light of Japan's standing as a member of the international community with regard to the issue of refugees.

Outline of the ISA

Organization and Structure of the ISA

- In April 2019, in line with restructuring of the Ministry of Justice's Immigration Bureau, the ISA was established as an external agency of the Ministry.
- The ISA consists of internal bureaus, detention facilities, and regional bureaus. Internal bureaus include the General Affairs Division, the Policy Planning Division, the Immigration Department, and the Residency Management and Support Department. Detention facilities include two immigration centers. Local branch offices include eight regional immigration services bureaus, seven district immigration services offices, and 61 branch offices nationwide.

ISA Organizational Chart

As of April 1, 2024

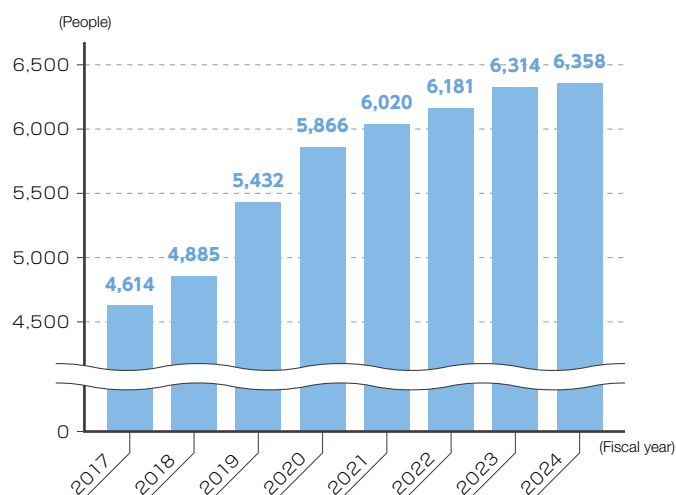
- * Numbers in parentheses indicate the number of positions or organizations.
 * Chief Record Officer is an ex officio member.





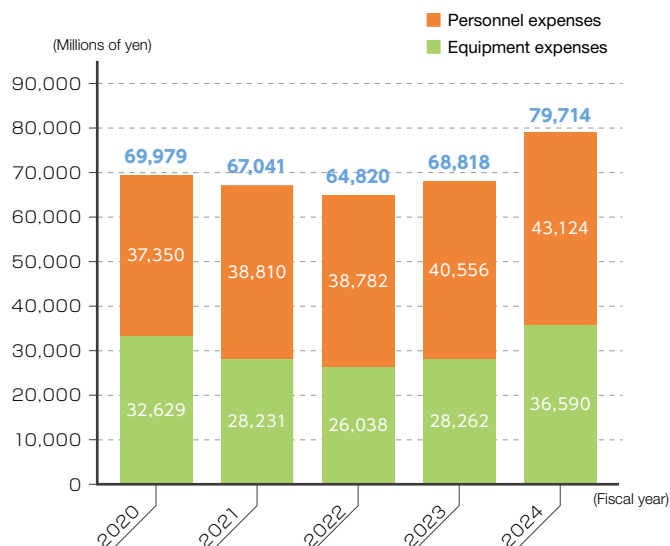
Number of Staff

As of the end of FY2024, there were 6,358 officials who were involved with administering immigration control and residency management nationwide. Of this number, 3,991 were immigration inspectors, who carry out immigration and residence examinations, among other tasks. There were also 1,676 immigration control officers, who detect illegal entrants and similar, and handle their forcible deportation from the country. Finally, the remaining 691 of the total are either officials in internal bureaus who carry out general administration work or technical officials such as doctors, nurses, and the like.



Budget

The ISA's budget for FY2024 was 79.7 billion yen, with approximately 54.1% allocated for personnel expenses.



History

1950

Immigration Control Agency of Japan established as an external agency of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1 immigration detention facility, 5 branch offices)

1951

Reorganization of the Immigration Control Agency (2 immigration detention facilities, 11 branch offices)

1952

Immigration Bureau became an internal agency of the Ministry of Justice (2 immigration detention facilities, 12 immigration offices)

1981

Reorganization of regional organizations (2 immigration detention facilities, 8 bureaus, 2 district immigration service offices, more branch offices)

2019

ISA established as an external agency of the Ministry of Justice



Immigration inspector



Immigration control officers

1 Smooth and Strict Immigration Examinations

To protect Japan's front door and ensure the smooth travel of people

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, as the number of foreign nationals entering Japan is once again on the rise, in order to contribute to the realization of a tourism-oriented nation, we are carrying out smooth entry examinations for those foreign nationals who present no problems. At the same time, in order to protect the lives and safety of the people in Japan, it is necessary to conduct strict immigration examinations that effectively prevent foreign nationals who may be criminals or terrorists from entering the country.

The ISA works every day to achieve these two objectives through immigration examinations conducted by our immigration inspectors, utilizing digital technology and enhanced information analysis.



Work of Immigration Inspectors

Immigration examinations

Foreign nationals who wish to land in Japan will, excepting those eligible for exemption, provide information for personal identification (fingerprints and facial photographs) and submit to an interview by an immigration inspector.

The immigration inspector will conduct an examination to determine whether the person in question meets the conditions for landing, and when it is confirmed that they meet those conditions grants them landing permission.

Also, for those foreign nationals who wish to leave from Japan, the immigration inspector confirms their departure.

Furthermore, with respect to the departures and returns of Japanese nationals, the immigration inspector confirms the facts at hand.



Entry examination by immigration inspector

Flow of entry examination procedures

1

Foreign nationals who have arrived at Japan's points of entry and departure provide information for personal identification.



2

The immigration inspector checks the passport and conducts an examination to determine if entry by the foreign national is permissible.



3

A landing permission seal is added to the passport.



Work of Immigration Control Officers

These officers patrol, conduct surveillance, and detect suspicious persons at airports and seaports in order to prevent illegal immigration.



Airport patrol



Seaport/coastal patrol

Smooth Immigration Examinations for the Realization of a Tourism-Oriented Nation

To become a tourism-oriented country, we are undertaking a variety of initiatives to facilitate carrying out smooth entry examinations for those foreign nationals who present no problem.

■ Facial recognition automated gate

To streamline the departures and returns of Japanese nationals, starting in October 2017 we introduced and put into operation facial recognition automated gates to eliminate the need for pre-registration procedures. Starting in July 2019, the gates were also put into use with departure procedures for foreign nationals.

■ Bio-cart

To speed up entry procedures for foreign nationals, in October 2016 we introduced equipment for accepting the submissions of fingerprints and facial photographs while awaiting examination.

■ Automated gates(fingerprint recognition gates)

In 2007, we introduced gates where Japanese nationals and those foreign nationals who satisfy certain conditions who have registered in advance can complete entry (return) procedures automatically by comparing their passport and fingerprints.

■ KIOSK

In order to shorten the time by eliminating overlapping parts of customs and immigration procedures, a demonstrative experiment for KIOSK that will enable simultaneous provision of passport information, etc., which were previously provided separately to customs and immigration authorities, has begun at Haneda Airport Terminal 2 from January 2024.

Aside from this, in light of the increase in the number of foreign nationals who visit Japan by cruise ship, for foreign national passengers on cruise ships designated by the Commissioner of the ISA, we have been working to facilitate entry examinations for those passengers by, for example, introducing the system of landing permission for cruise ship tourists which uses a simplified procedure to allow entry.



Facial recognition automated gate



Bio-cart



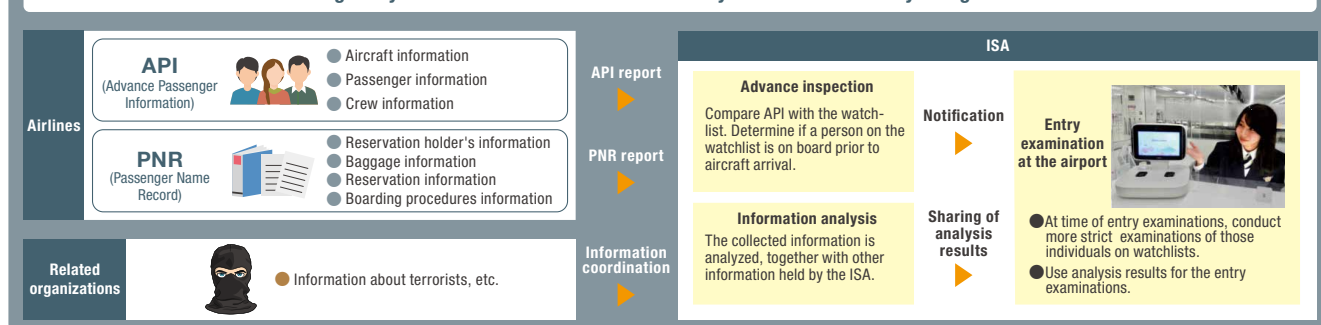
KIOSK

Boosting border controls (international counter-terrorism measures)

In order to protect the lives and safety of people in Japan, it is extremely important to prevent the entry of persons who are trying to enter Japan with illegal purposes, e.g., terrorists and criminals disguised as tourists.

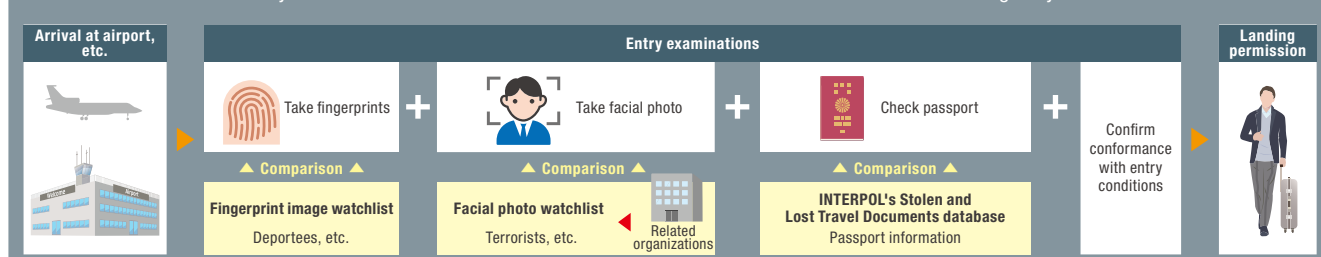
To reliably detect such persons, the ISA carries out strict and effective entry examinations, and engages in patrol and monitoring activities.

Bolstering entry examinations / collection and analysis of information by using API and PNR



Entry examinations using personal identification information / Use of the INTERPOL's Stolen and Lost Travel Documents database

Require applicants to present personal identification information (fingerprints and facial photographs) at the entry examinations and compare with watchlists. Introduce a system to use the INTERPOL's Stolen and Lost Travel Documents database when conducting entry examinations.



2 Proper and Smooth Acceptance of Foreign Nationals

To realize residence by foreign nationals in line with objectives

As the number of foreign residents in Japan continues to increase, we are working toward proper residency management to realize a safe and secure society. At the same time, in order to address the nation's increasingly severe labor shortage and to vitalize the Japanese economy and society, it is necessary to smoothly and proactively accept highly-skilled foreign professionals and other human resources.

The ISA is working to achieve these objectives through residence examinations conducted by immigration inspectors at regional immigration services bureaus, with improved convenience featuring online procedures and the introduction and implementation of systems for the acceptance of the highly-skilled foreign professionals and other human resources.



Work of Immigration Inspectors

Residence examination for foreign nationals

Foreign nationals residing in Japan can engage in activities freely and securely so long as these are within the scope of their status of residence and period of stay that was determined at the time of landing. Those who desire to change their status of residence or extend their period of stay are required to obtain permission from Regional Immigration Services Bureaus in accordance with Japanese laws and regulations.

Accordingly, immigration inspectors at the Regional Immigration Services Bureaus carry out examinations of various applications (extension of period of stay, changes of status of residence, etc.) from foreign residents.

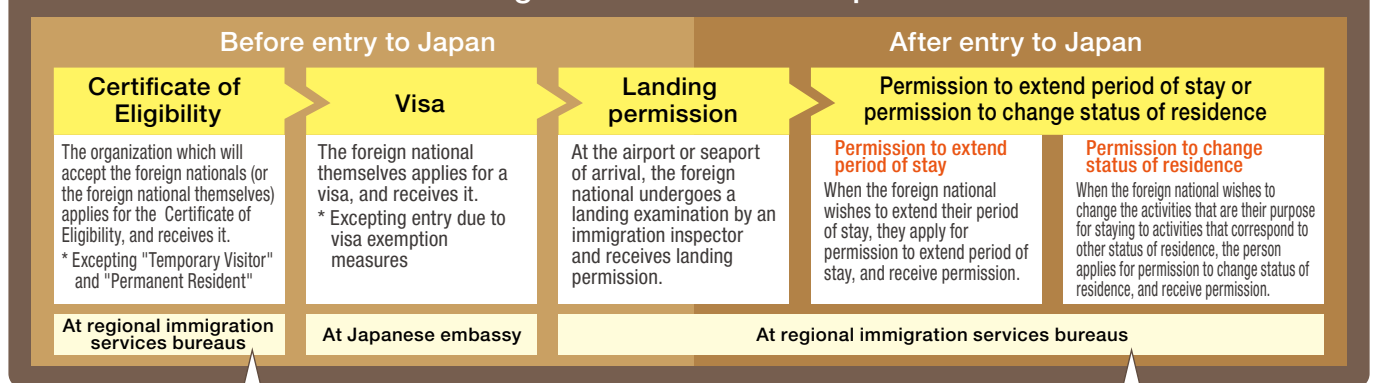
The government of Japan strives to implement appropriate residence control of foreign nationals, as well as consider the interests and security of Japanese citizens, by implementing examinations to permit foreign nationals' activities and residence in Japan based on a status of residence and period of stay.



Residence examination counter

* Please refer to pages 17 and 18 for a status of residence list.

Flow of immigration and residence procedures



Certificate of Eligibility

In 1990, a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) system was introduced in order to simplify and facilitate entry examination procedures. The Certificate of Eligibility certifies that a foreign national who intends to enter Japan meets conditions for landing in advance through an examination, including details such as whether the activity the person will engage in while in Japan corresponds with any status of residence (excluding "Temporary Visitor" and "Permanent Resident"). Submitting or presenting this certificate enables a foreign national to smoothly obtain a visa or landing permission.

Also, to improve convenience even further, foreign nationals have been able to receive the certificate via email since March 2023.



Certificate of Eligibility

Residency Management for Mid to Long-Term Residents

We issue residence cards that allow us to remain continually aware of the status of residence of foreign nationals residing for mid to long-term periods in Japan. Card holders are required to notify us when there are changes to their place of residence or other details present on the card.






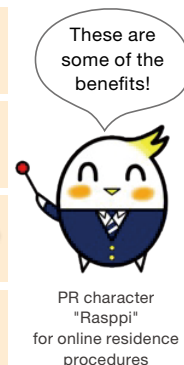
Residence card

Online Residency Procedures for Improved User Convenience

Online residency procedures via the Internet had been limited to staff members of organizations that satisfy certain criteria as well as lawyers and administrative scriveners. However, since March 2022, foreign nationals can apply online via the Internet by utilizing the personal authentication function of the My Number Card.

Prior application must be made by registering user information online or by mail.

- 1** No visit to the regional immigration services bureaus is required. 
- 2** Applications can be submitted 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, from your home or office. **24H 365DAY**
* The system may be shut down for maintenance several times a year.
- 3** There is no charge for using the system. **Free** 
- 4** You can also receive your residence card by mail. 



To Promote the Acceptance of Highly-Skilled Foreign Professionals

In order to actively accept outstanding human resources from overseas and generate new innovation, we have established "the system of preferential immigration control and residency management treatment based on the points-based system for highly-skilled foreign professionals" to promote the acceptance of highly-skilled foreign nationals. This system uses a points-based framework to recognize those human resources (highly-skilled foreign professionals) who possess particularly outstanding capabilities, technical skills, etc. The system provides them with preferential treatment immigration control and residency management (under certain conditions, it allows for parents to accompany the highly-skilled foreign professionals, for domestic workers to be employed, etc.).

Additionally, in April 2023, the System for Special Highly-Skilled Professionals (J-Skip) and the System for Future Creation Individual Visa (J-Find) were established. J-Skip is a system for granting the "Highly Skilled Professional" status of residence, based on academic or work history and provided they have a certain level of income. J-Find is a system for granting a "Designated Activities" (future creation individual) status of residence to those foreign nationals who are graduates of outstanding overseas universities, etc., and who wish to work or conduct preparatory activities for starting a business in Japan.



To Secure and Develop Human Resources in Sectors with Labor Shortages

Reviewing the Technical Intern Training Program (Establishment of the Employment for Skill Development Program)

We have been accepting many technical intern trainees under the Technical Intern Training Program, which was found in 1993, and contributing to development of their home countries through transfer of skills.

Since various issues has been pointed out surrounding the program and the legitimate time for review of the program has arrived, the relevant laws were revised in June 2024 in order to establish the Employment for Skill Development Program, the purpose of which is to develop and secure human resources through employment in industrial fields with labor shortage, while progressively dissolving Technical Intern Training Program with actual circumstances.

The ISA is preparing for smooth introduction of the new program and working on improvement of environment to accept foreign nationals for realization of a society of harmonious coexistence, from the perspectives of making Japan an attractive country to work for foreign nationals and paying attention to secure of human resources in local areas, along with the Specified Skilled Worker System (See the column on the right).

Optimizing the Specified Skilled Worker System

In the industrial fields, which find it difficult to secure human resources even if they strive for productivity improvement and recruitment of domestic human resources, measures were taken to establish the status of residence "Specified Skilled Worker (i)" and the status of residence "Specified Skilled Worker (ii)" in order to accept foreign nationals with a certain degree of expertise and skills as "work-ready" laborers on April 1, 2019.

Various initiatives are being pursued toward the smooth operation of the Specified Skilled Worker System. These include the establishment of policies on the system's operation in collaboration with related ministries and agencies, the drafting of Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) with sending country governments, and the holding of matching events for companies that wish to employ foreign nationals with specified skills, and information sessions for foreign nationals in their home countries.

Additionally, along with establishing the Employment for Skill Development Program (described on the left), a legal amendment was made to optimize the Specified Skilled Worker System (enacted in June 2024). In response to this, the Specified Skilled Worker System will aim to further enhance its appropriateness, including by strengthening collaboration between accepting companies and local governments.

3

Creating an Environment Accepting of Foreign Nationals Toward the Creation of a Society of Harmonious Coexistence

For everyone to be able to live as good neighbors

To realize a society of harmonious coexistence where both Japanese and foreign nationals can live together safely and comfortably, the government is working to improve an environment for accepting foreign nationals.

In April 2019, the Ministry of Justice's Immigration Bureau was reorganized, establishing the ISA. In addition to its traditional roles of conducting immigration and residence examinations, the ISA was also given the responsibility of planning, drafting, and general coordination, to improve the environment for accepting foreign nationals. The ISA acts as the government's central coordinating body, working to formulate policies and cooperate with local governments and other organizations to support foreign nationals as residents.



To Act as the Government's Central Coordinating Body

Roadmap for the Realization of a Society of Harmonious Coexistence with Foreign Nationals

In November 2021, a written opinion compiled by "Advisory Panel of Experts for the Realization of Society of Harmonious Coexistence with Foreign Nationals" was submitted to the Minister of Justice, co-chair of the Ministerial Conference (a conference made up of the ministers and directors of the related ministries and agencies). Based on this proposal, in June 2022, the government formulated a Roadmap (partly changed in June 2024) that shows Japan's visions of a society of harmonious coexistence with foreign nationals. It also lays out the medium- to long-term issues and concrete measures to realize these visions by FY2026.

Based on that Roadmap and the Comprehensive Measures laid out below, the government has united to further promote establishing an environment aimed at realizing a society of harmonious coexistence with foreign nationals.

Roadmap for the Realization of a Society of Harmonious Coexistence with Foreign Nationals "Three Visions"

- 1 **Safe and Comfortable Society**
A society built together with foreign nationals. A society where all people can live safely and comfortably.
- 2 **Diverse and Vibrant Society**
A vibrant society where people from different countries and culture can participate and fully utilize their abilities.
- 3 **Society that Respects Individual Dignity and Human Rights**
A society where all people respect dignity and human rights and is free of discrimination and prejudice.

Comprehensive Measures for Acceptance and Coexistence of Foreign Nationals

In December 2018, the government formulated "Comprehensive Measures for Acceptance and Coexistence of Foreign Nationals" (hereinafter referred to as "Comprehensive Measures"), which includes measures related to scenes in daily life such as work environment, education, medical care and housing from the perspective of more strongly and comprehensively promoting the measures for acceptance and coexistence of foreign nationals. The Comprehensive Measures has been revised six times since then, and the most recent revision was made in June 2024.

The Comprehensive Measures shows measures that should be implemented by the government in a single fiscal year to realize a society of harmonious coexistence with foreign nationals.

Cooperating with Local Governments

Cooperating through "Accepting Environmental Coordinators"

Starting in April 2019, "Accepting Environmental Coordinators" were assigned to the regional immigration services bureaus (excepting some offices). Based on a request from the local government, these coordinators will promptly dispatch staff to serve as consultants at consulting counters related to foreign residents. They also provide information and training to the officers of local governments who are engaged in consultation services.

Furthermore, to promote multicultural and inclusive policies in the various regions, the ISA is working on further deploying the Accepting Environmental Coordinator system. In cooperation and collaboration with local governments, the ISA is working to collect information about the various regions and to share the useful information collected with those local governments such as about good practices.

Support for one-stop consulting counters

Support is provided through subsidies and the like for initiatives to establish and operate one-stop consulting counters through which the local governments deliver information and provide consultations so that a resident foreign national who has questions or concerns about matters related to daily life can get to the appropriate information or to a place that offers advice and consultations.



A consultation taking place at a one-stop consulting counter

For the residence support of the foreigner

■ Providing consultations to foreign residents

The ISA has established at each of its regional immigration services bureaus and district offices (excepting airport district immigration services offices) Immigration Information Centers to serve as a point of contact mainly for providing guidance on procedures related status of residence, etc.

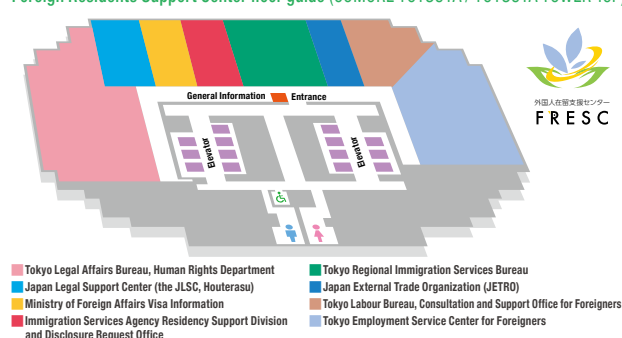
In recent years, owing to the growing need to deal with the difficulties that foreign nationals face in their daily lives, in addition to the guidance on procedures that it has been providing the ISA has also been working with residency support departments to also provide consultations related to all aspects of daily life.

Furthermore, the Foreign Residents Support Center (FRESC) was opened on July 2020. At FRESC, which establishes a hub for supporting foreign residents, eight organizations from four ministries and agencies (including the Tokyo Regional Immigration Services Bureau, Tokyo Legal Affairs Bureau's Human Rights Department and the Houterasu (Japan Legal Support Center)) have offices on one floor to cope with inquiries regarding the status of residence as well as legal problems, responds to inquiries from one-stop consulting counters at local government offices, and holds training sessions for administrative officers of local governments through close cooperation among them.



Immigration Information Center

Foreign Residents Support Center floor guide (COMORE YOTSUYA / YOTSUYA TOWER 13F)



■ Disseminating information necessary for daily life

The ISA, with cooperation from a wide range of sections of the government, has compiled a "Guidebook on Living and Working" that covers basic information (residency procedures, labor-related laws, social insurance, crime prevention, traffic safety, etc.) necessary for foreign residents to lead their lives and take up employment in Japan safely and securely. It is available in 16 languages at the "Daily Life Support Portal for Foreign Nationals" at the ISA's website.



Furthermore, in March 2024, we created and released Videos for the daily life orientation (available on the ISA website and Ministry of Justice YouTube channel).



Guidebook on Living and Working



Videos for the daily life orientation (ISA website)



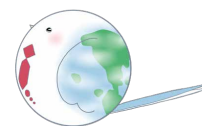
Videos for the daily life orientation (Ministry of Justice YouTube channel)

■ Use of plain Japanese for foreign residents support

In August 2020, the ISA created its "Plain Japanese Guidelines for Foreign Residents Support" to promote the use of plain Japanese (using Japanese that is easy to understand mindful of the other party, such as rephrasing difficult language) by the national and local governments. The ISA is promoting the spread and use of plain Japanese through training, etc., for local government officials.



Plain Japanese Guidelines for Foreign Residents Support



PR character "Kotorin"

■ Training and certification of Support Coordinator for Foreign Nationals

To train and certify professionals who can lead foreign nationals facing problems in their lives to an appropriate source of assistance, the ISA implement training programs for Support Coordinator for Foreign Nationals. These programs provide the knowledge and skills for responding to consultations from foreign nationals on complex, multi-layered issues and guiding them to appropriate solutions.

The first training session started from August 2024 for local government officials, etc.

4

Promotion of Measures Against Illegal Residents to Realize a Safe and Secure Society

To keep Japan safe and secure

Some foreign nationals are regarded as unfavorable to Japanese society. These include persons who entered or landed in Japan illegally, persons who overstayed beyond their authorized period of stay or are engaged in unauthorized activities, or persons who have been punished for certain crimes.

The ISA works to realize a safe and secure society. As such, by deporting such foreign nationals in accordance with laws and regulations, we prevent harm to the safety and interests of our citizens.



Deportation Procedures

If an individual identified during an investigation is suspected of violating the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, the ISA carefully carries out procedures to ascertain the facts involved and consider the circumstances of the foreign national in question by investigating the violation, examining the violation, and conducting hearings. Foreign nationals for whom grounds are found for forcible deportation are promptly repatriated to their country of nationality, etc.

However, this does not mean that all foreign nationals for whom grounds are found for forcible deportation as stipulated in the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act will be deported. Some may be granted special permission to stay by the Minister of Justice in light of that person's history in Japan, their family situation, and the like.

In addition, certain violators of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act who meet certain conditions will be able to leave Japan through the simplified procedure of a departure order.



Immigration control officer

Flow of deportation procedures



If the Supervising Immigration Inspector deems that there is sufficient reason to suspect that a person meets the grounds for deportation, they examine whether to subject the individual to Sponsorship under support of a Sponsor or detention.

An immigration inspector examines whether the suspect falls under the conditions of deportation or not.

* If a suspect disagrees with the result of the examination, he/she may request an hearing by a special inquiry officer.



An immigration control officer investigates the facts concerning a violation.



A special inquiry officer determines whether the immigration inspector's decision is correct or not.

* If the suspect disagrees with the special inquiry officer's judgment, he/she may file an objection with the Minister of Justice.



Amended Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act to Resolve the Issues of Deportation Evasion and Long-Term Detention

Under the previous Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, even if the administrative procedures for an individual's deportation from Japan had been completed, the deportation was uniformly suspended during the examination of an application for recognition of a refugee, regardless of the reason or the number of times the application had been filed. This led to problems with individuals abusing the refugee recognition application process to avoid deportation, as well as long-term detention caused by resisting deportation. With the aim of resolving these issues, the Amended act of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act was enacted and promulgated in June 2023, and fully implemented in June 2024.

Overview of the amended Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act

■ Resolving the issue of deportation evasion

- ▶ Exceptions to the suspension of deportation were established, allowing for deportation in the following cases: (a) for individuals applying for recognition as a refugee for the third time or more (excluding individuals who submit "materials demonstrating reasonable grounds" that justify their recognition of refugee status at the time of application); (b) for those with a criminal record consisting of three or more years of imprisonment; and (c) for foreign nationals deemed to be terrorists, etc.
- ▶ The amended Act also established a system for removal order with penalties when deportation is practically impossible (e.g., for individuals who obstructed their deportation while on an aircraft).

■ Resolving issues related to detention

- ▶ A Sponsorship under support of a Sponsor has been established, making it possible to proceed with deportation procedures without detention under the support of a sponsor. An examination is conducted based on individual circumstances to determine whether the person undergoing forcible deportation procedures will be subject to Sponsorship under support of a Sponsor or detention. Once a person is detained, a review is held every three months of continuous detention to determine the necessity of Sponsorship.
- ▶ Regulations to ensure appropriate treatment have been established, including the relaxation of side-business prohibition of full-time physicians, compulsory medical treatment, and the obligation for medical checkups every three months.

Efforts to Improve Treatment

Under a September 2010 agreement with the Japan Federation of Bar Associations (JFBA), the ISA began holding talks about the problems related to detention. Regular telephone consultations, etc. are held by bar associations regarding persons being detained at immigration detention facilities.

Based on the recommendations outlined in the "Investigation Report on the Case of the Death of a Detainee at the Nagoya Regional Immigration Services Bureau", which was published in August 2021, efforts are being made to strengthen the medical system, including making translation devices available in all immigration detention facilities, preparing an emergency response manual, and the administration of medical examinations for all new detainees.

Furthermore, with the goal of ensuring transparency in security treatment, the ISA has established the Immigration Detention Facilities Visiting Committee at the Tokyo Regional Immigration Services Bureau and the Osaka Regional Immigration Services Bureau.

The committees conduct inspections of the detention facilities and conduct interviews with detainees, as well as review correspondence from detainees and hold meetings. Based on these materials, they present their opinions to the directors of the detention facilities. With regard to the opinions submitted by these committees, the directors then work to take measures on those matters that can be addressed.



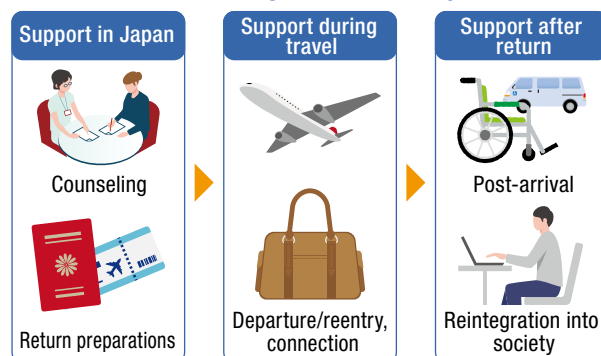
Detainee medical examination (blood pressure check)

Encouraging deportation of deportees

Regarding those individuals who evade deportation, the ISA works to encourage them to return home of their own volition. However, with respect to those individuals who nonetheless evade deportation, based on the regulations stipulated by law, they are ultimately deported by regularly operated service, accompanied by an escort. Additionally, since 2013, to avoid situations where an airline captain may refuse boarding, the ISA has carried out group deportation using a chartered flight, which makes it possible to securely deport significant numbers of deportees who share the same deportation destination.

Also, among those individuals who have the intention to return to their home country but evade deportation mainly because of concerns about their lives after returning, for those recognized as requiring humane consideration, with the help of the International Organization for Migration's Japan office, the ISA since FY2013 has operated a program to support voluntary return and reintegration into society.

Outline of Program to Support Voluntary Return and Reintegration into Society



5 Proper Protection of Refugees

To fulfill our obligations as a member of the international community

Japan is a signatory to both the "Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees" and the "Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees." With the Convention and the Protocol having come into effect for Japan on January 1, 1982, it guaranteed that the various protective measures set down in those agreements would be applied to refugees. The changing international situation is resulting in an increasing number of people being displaced by conflict.

To fulfill our duty as a member of the international community, the ISA works to provide appropriate protection for these refugees and people of similar status.



Recognition Procedure for Refugees and People of Similar Status

Refugee recognition

Based on an application from a foreign national in Japan, the ISA conducts an examination to determine whether or not the person qualifies for refugee status and issues a Refugee Travel Document to those persons so recognized. At airports and seaports, the ISA handles the work of, for example, granting landing permission for temporary refuge that authorizes the temporary entry and residence of foreign nationals who apply for asylum and may qualify as refugees.

Additionally, the refugee examination counselor system was created in 2005 to grant appropriate asylum to refugees through a more equitable and neutral procedure. Through this system, in the event that a complaint has been filed regarding the refusal of refugee status, etc., three refugee examination counselors—comprising university professors, lawyers, and the like—will pursue an inquiry. The Minister of Justice listens to the opinions of the refugee examination counselors and then must make a determination.

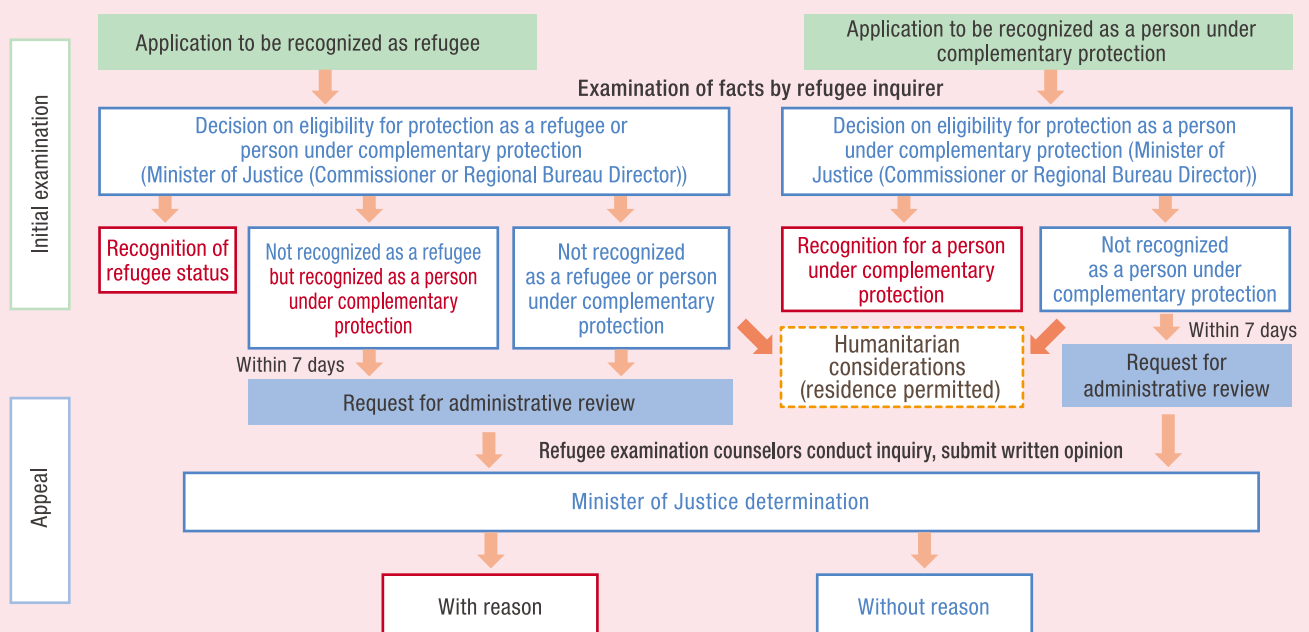


Examination by refugee inquirer

The system for recognizing Person under Complementary Protection took effect in December 2023.

* Please refer to page 15 for details.

Recognition Procedures for Refugees and Persons under Complementary Protection



Further optimization to the operation of the refugee recognition system

Japan has properly recognized applicants who should be recognized as refugees, and even when they cannot be recognized as refugees, they have been allowed to stay in Japan as long as they need protection based on humanitarian consideration with the situation in their home countries. On the other hand, it has become necessary to improve the transparency of the refugee recognition system, and to respond to the rapid increase in the number of applications for refugee recognition and various claims in recent years.

The ISA is working in close cooperation with relevant organizations such as UNHCR (the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) to further optimize operation of the refugee recognition system based on three pillars: (i) clarifying normative elements on the eligibility for refugee status, (ii) improving the capacity of refugee inquirers, and (iii) enriching the content of country of origin information. To accelerate these initiatives, the ISA exchanged a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) with UNHCR in July 2021.

Furthermore, with regard to item (i) above, in March 2023 the ISA formulated and published "Guide to Eligibility Determination for Refugee Status" that arrange the points that should be taken into consideration when making determinations on refugee status.



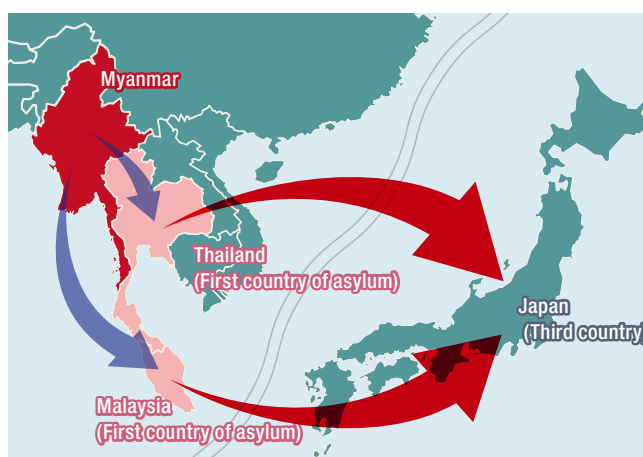
Signing ceremony with UNHCR

Acceptance of refugees through resettlement

Resettlement entails authorizing the resettlement of refugees who have escaped their country of origin and accepted temporary asylum in, for example, refugee camps in a neighboring country. These individuals are then transferred to a third country that has agreed to newly accept them from the country from which they had initially sought asylum.

Japan had accepted every year approximately 30 refugees from Myanmar living in refugee camps in Thailand since FY2010 as pilots case based on Cabinet approval, etc. Starting in FY2015, it began accepting the refugees from Myanmar who were given temporary asylum in Malaysia.

Furthermore, beginning in FY2020, according to a change to part of the Cabinet approval, the decision was made on matters such as expanding acceptance to include refugees temporarily residing in the Asian region. In cooperation with related ministries and agencies, the ISA is striving to ensure their smooth acceptance.



Resettlement illustration (In the case of accepting refugees from Myanmar)

Encouraging collaboration with private support groups

In 2012 three-party agreement with the Forum for Refugees Japan and the Japan Federation of Bar Associations, the Immigration Bureau, Ministry of Justice, finalized a memorandum on working to come up with better policies by collaborating and cooperating with citizen groups.

Based on this memorandum, during the period of April 2012 and March 2014, the Immigration Bureau implemented a "pilot project", which the Immigration Bureau (at the time) requested the Forum for Refugees Japan to secure a residence for foreign nationals claiming asylum at Narita Airport for whom it is difficult to secure a residence, and Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge or Permission for Provisional Stay was granted to foreign nationals who were accepted by the Forum.

Subsequently, following discussions by the three parties, the same measures under this project are currently being taken at Narita Airport, Haneda Airport, Chubu Airport and Kansai Airport.



Meeting with citizen support groups



Other Initiatives

1

Launch of the system for recognizing Person under Complementary Protection

Japan acceded to the "Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees" in 1981 and the "Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees" in 1982, and provides appropriate protection to foreign nationals who are recognized as refugees under these agreements. In recent years, however, there has been an increase in the number of foreign nationals who require protection but their fear of persecution do not fall under any of the five grounds specified in the Refugee Convention: race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion. These include people fleeing conflict who do not technically qualify as "refugees" under the Refugee Convention, but who still need protection.

To ensure the protection of individuals who, while not "refugees" under the Refugee Convention, still require the same protection, a system for recognizing persons under complementary protection was established. This system took effect on December 1, 2023.

A "person under complementary protection" refers to an individual who does not qualify as a refugee under the Refugee Convention but meets the criteria for refugee status, except the criteria that the risk of persecution is due to any of the five grounds specified in the Refugee Convention (race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion). The procedure for recognizing persons under complementary protection involves examining the situation and determining whether the foreign national qualifies as a person under complementary protection.

When a person is recognized as person under complementary protection, similar to foreign nationals who have been recognized as refugees, in principle they are granted the status of residence "Long Term Resident" and become eligible to take part in a settlement support program.

Overview of Support for Persons under Complementary Protection

Persons under complementary protection are provided access to a settlement support program equivalent to that provided for refugees under the Refugee Convention

Settlement support program for persons under complementary protection

- Japanese language instruction (572 sessions)
- Guidance for daily living (120 sessions) * 1 session = 45 minutes



Assistance during settlement support program courses

- Accommodation for persons under complementary protection
- Daily life support

In addition to the above, job search support (primarily through Hello Work), consultation with counselors for various daily life-related topics, and information through handbooks and other materials.

Settlement support program periods

FY2023				FY2024												FY2025	
Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
System implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Recognition as a person under complementary protectionDetermining and preparing participants for the settlement support program			Daytime course (1st round)						Daytime course (2nd round)						Daytime course (3rd round)	
				Evening course (1st round)												Evening course (2nd round)	

Settlement support programs are held annually in April and October (evening courses are offered only in April). They can be taken either in person or online.

2

LIFE IN HARMONY PROMOTION MONTH

To help realize a society in harmonious coexistence with foreign nationals, it is important for everyone living in Japan to deepen their interest in and understanding of the necessity and significance of building society together. Starting in 2024, the ISA has designated January as "LIFE IN HARMONY PROMOTION MONTH" to raise awareness about harmonious coexistence with foreign nationals. During the period, we will hold a variety of public relations and awareness-raising activities, including the month's main event, the "ALL TOGETHER FESTIVAL", to help us realize a society in harmonious coexistence.



Scenes from the "ALL TOGETHER FESTIVAL"



See here for details.



3

Measures against trafficking in persons

Initiatives to combat trafficking in persons

Trafficking in persons means acts—including procurement, transportation, sexual exploitation and receipt of persons by means of violence, threat, abduction, fraud, abuse of a position of vulnerability, etc.—for the purpose of exploitation by forcing them to engage in prostitution or forced labor. Trafficking in persons is a serious abuse of human rights and is absolutely unacceptable.

Since signing the "Protocol on Trafficking in Persons" that was adopted by resolution of the United Nations in November 2000, Japan has been implementing government-wide measures to combat trafficking in persons led by the Cabinet Secretariat, and including the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and the National Police Agency. In December 2014, the "Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons" was established, consisting of relevant cabinet ministers, to strongly promote anti-trafficking measures.

The ISA has also been working closely with the related ministries and agencies based on the "2022 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons" formulated in December 2022. Moreover, through strengthening its relations with the relevant foreign organizations, international organizations and NGOs, the ISA has been working to prevent trafficking in persons, as well as more proactively monitoring cases of trafficking that may be hidden from view, and working to eradicate trafficking and to properly protect the victims.

Initiatives by the ISA

Prevention

- Stricter landing and residence examinations
- Reinforcing investigation into and cracking down on brokers
- Collaborating with embassies, airlines, and the like

Protection

- Stabilization of the legal status of foreign national victims by granting special permission to stay in Japan, etc.
- Fast and smooth repatriation support

Prosecution

- Proactive approach towards cases involving promotion of illegal employment
- Deportation of foreign national offenders

4

Responding to the International Community

Responding to treaties concluded

In light of the deep relationship to the work under its jurisdiction, the ISA actively supports the framework such as Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs), and frameworks aimed at exchanging information and opinions and improving cooperative relationships among multiple countries, including the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

Furthermore, with respect to government reports on such matters as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) to which the government is a signatory, from its perspective related to managing immigration services, the ISA is involved with drafting reports, screening government reports, and engaging in follow up.

International conferences

The 3rd Tokyo Immigration Forum was held on December 20–22, 2023, with the participation of representatives from 17 countries and regions and two international organizations. In the plenary session, under the agenda item of "Protection of Human Rights of Foreign Nationals in the Immigration Administration", participants shared information and exchanged opinions regarding the issues that immigration authorities face and responses to these issues that ensure a balance between "strict and appropriate immigration control and residency management" and "respect for fundamental human rights of foreign nationals". During the breakout sessions, participants were divided by four themes, "Recently-Introduced Immigration Measures", "Public Relations Activities in the Immigration Administration", "Protection of Refugees and Forcibly Displaced Persons" and "Preventive Measures against Illegal Entrants including Irregular Migrants", and they shared information and exchanged opinions on these themes.

Additionally, the ISA participated in the Migration Experts Subgroup of the G7 Roma-Lyon Group meeting of senior experts studying international counter-terrorism policies and policies to counter international criminal organizations. It has also been working on building cooperative relationships with other countries by participating in consultations, etc. among consular authorities to proactively explain Japan's stance, and it has further been participating in meetings with the objectives of sharing information and exchanging opinions at a multinational level such as at the ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Departments and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of Ministries of Foreign Affairs Meeting Plus Three Consultation.



The 3rd Tokyo Immigration Forum



Appendix: List of Status of Residence

Status of Residence	Authorized activities		Examples	Period of Stay
Diplomat	Activities on the part of constituent members of diplomatic missions or consular offices of foreign governments hosted by the Japanese Government; activities on the part of those who are provided with similar privileges and/or immunities as are granted to diplomatic missions pursuant to treaties or international customary practices; and activities on the part of their family members belonging to the same household.		Ambassador, minister, consulate general, or delegation member of a foreign government and their families	Period during which diplomatic activities are performed
Official	Activities on the part of those who engage in the official business of foreign governments or international organizations recognized by the Japanese Government; and activities on the part of their family members belonging to the same household (except for the activities listed in the "Diplomat" column of this Table).		Employee of an embassy or consulate of a foreign government, individual assigned by an international institution for an official assignment, and their families	5 years, 3 years, 1 year, 3 months, 30 days or 15 days
Professor	Activities for research, guidance of research or education at a university, an equivalent educational institutions or colleges of technology ("Kotosenmongakko").		College professor	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Artist	Artistic activities that produce income, including music, the fine arts, literature, etc.(except for the activities listed in the "Entertainer" column of this Table).		Composer, artist, or writer	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Religious Activities	Missionary and other religious activities conducted by foreign religious workers dispatched by a foreign religious organization.		Missionary assigned by a foreign religious organization	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Journalist	News coverage and other Journalistic activities conducted based on a contract with a foreign journalistic organization.		Reporter or photographer of foreign press	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Highly-Skilled Professional	(i) Activities coming under any of the following items of "a" to "c" conducted by a person who meets the criteria specified by an Ordinance of the Ministry of Justice as a human resource with advanced highly-skilled capabilities, and who is expected to contribute to the development of academic research or the economy of Japan.	(a) Activities of engaging in research, research guidance or education based on a contract entered into with a public or private organization in Japan designated by the Minister of Justice, or in conjunction with such activities, activities of a business managed personally by the highly-skilled professional associated with these activities or activities of research, research guidance or education based on a contract entered into a public or private organization in Japan other than said organization.	Highly-skilled human resources in accordance with the points' system	5 years
		(b) Activities of engaging in work requiring specialized knowledge or skills in the field of natural sciences or humanities based on a contract entered into with a public or private organization in Japan designated by the Minister of Justice, or in conjunction with such activities, activities of a business managed personally by the highly-skilled professional associated with these activities.		Unlimited
	(ii) The following activities which meet the criteria specified by an Ordinance of the Ministry of Justice where the residence of the person engaging in the activities given in the previous item contributes to the interests of Japan. (a) Activities of engaging in research, research guidance or education based on a contract entered into with a public or private organization in Japan. (b) Activities of engaging in work requiring specialized knowledge or skills in the field of natural sciences or humanities based on a contract entered into with a public or private organization in Japan. (c) Activities of engaging in the operation of international trade or other business at a public or private organization in Japan or to manage said business. (d) In conjunction with any of the activities listed in (ii) (a) to (c), the activities given in the column for Professor, Artist, Religious Activities, Journalist, Legal/Accounting Services, Medical Services, Instructor, Engineer/ Specialist in Humanities/International Services, Nursing Care, Entertainer, Skilled Labor or Specified Skilled Worker(ii) (except for the activities coming under any of (ii) (a) to (c)).			
Business Manager	Activities to engage in the operation of international trade or other business in Japan or to manage said business (except for activities to engage in the operation or management of business which may not be legally conducted without the qualification given in the column of "Legal/Accounting Services").		Manager or operator of a company, etc.	5 years, 3 years, 1 year, 6 months, 4 months or 3 months
Legal/Accounting Services	Activities to engage in legal or accounting business which may lawfully only be carried out by registered foreign lawyers (gaikokuhoujimbengoshi), or certified public accountants (gaikokukoninkaikeishi) or those with other legal qualifications.		Attorney or certified public accountant	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Medical Services	Activities to engage in medical treatment services which may lawfully only be undertaken by physicians, dentists or those with other legal qualifications.		Physician, dentist or registered nurse	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Researcher	Activities to engage in research based on a contract with a public or private organization in Japan (except for the activities listed in the "Professor" column of this Table).		Researcher at a government-related institution or company	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Instructor	Activities to engage in language instruction or other education at an elementary school, junior high school, compulsory education school, senior high school, school for secondary education (chutokyoikugakko), school for special needs education, vocational school (senshugakko), miscellaneous category school(kakushugakko) or other educational institution equivalent to a miscellaneous educational institution in facilities and curriculum.		Language instructor at a high school or junior high school	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Engineer/ Specialist in Humanities/ International Services	Activities to engage in services which require specialized skills or knowledge pertinent to the field of physical science, engineering or other natural science fields or to the field of jurisprudence, economics, sociology or other humanities fields or to engage in services which require specific ways of thinking or sensitivity acquired through experience with a foreign culture, based on a contract entered into with a public or private organization in Japan(except for the activities listed in the "Professor","Artist","Journalist", "Business Manager","Legal/Accounting Services","Medical Services","Researcher","Instructor","Intra-company Transferee","Nursing Care" and "Entertainer" columns of this Table).		Engineers such as of mechanical engineering, interpreters, designers, language teachers of private companies, and employees engaged in the marketing field, etc.	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Intra-company Transferee	Activities on the part of personnel who is transferred to a business office in Japan for a limited period of time from a business office established in a foreign country by a public or private organization which has head office, branch office or other business office in Japan, and who engages in the activities listed in the "Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services" column of this Table at the business office.		Transferee from an office abroad	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Nursing Care	Activities of a person qualified as a certified care worker to engage in nursing care or the instructions of nursing care based on a contract with a public or private organization in Japan.		Certified Care Worker	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months
Entertainer	Activities to engage in theatrical performances, musical performances, sports or any other show form of business (except for the activities listed in the "Business Manager" column of this Table).		Actor, singer, dancer, or professional athlete	3 years, 1 year, 6 months, 3 months, or 30 days
Skilled Labor	Activities to engage in services which require industrial techniques or skills belonging to special fields based on a contract with a public or private organization in Japan.		Chef of foreign cuisine, sports instructor, aircraft pilot, or craftsman of precious metals	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 3 months

Status of Residence	Authorized activities		Examples	Period of Stay
Specified Skilled Worker	(i)	Activities to engage in work requiring skills that need a considerable degree of knowledge or experience provided for in the applicable Order for the Ministry of Justice belonging to a specified industrial field (meaning the specified industrial field designated in the applicable Order of the Ministry of Justice where the securing of human resources to supplement the shortage of labor by employing foreign nationals is required due to difficulty in securing human resources; hereinafter the same shall apply in the same item) designated by the Minister of Justice based on a contract (limited to those conforming to the provisions of Article 2-5, paragraph (1) through to paragraph (4) of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act; hereinafter the same shall apply in the following item) concerning employment entered into with a public or private organization in Japan designated by the Minister of Justice.	Foreign nationals engaging in work requiring skills which need considerable knowledge or experience belonging to specified industrial fields.	Period designated individually by the Minister of Justice (1 year or less)
	(ii)	Activities to engage in work requiring the proficient skills provided for in the applicable Order for the Ministry of Justice belonging to a specified industrial field designated by the Minister of Justice based on a contract concerning employment entered into with a public or private organization in Japan designated by the Minister of Justice.	Foreign nationals engaging in work requiring proficient skills belonging to specified industrial fields.	3 years, 1 year or 6 months
Technical Intern Training	(i)	(a) Activities of taking a training course based on a technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to Individual-Enterprise-Type Technical Intern Training (i)) accredited under the Technical Intern Training Act, and engaging in work related to the skills, etc.	Technical intern trainees	Period designated individually by the Minister of Justice (1 year or less)
		(b) Activities of taking a training course based on a technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to Supervising-Organization-Type Technical Intern Training (i)) accredited under the Technical Intern Training Act, and engaging in work related to the skills, etc.		Period designated individually by the Minister of Justice (2 year or less)
	(ii)	(a) Activities of engaging in work requiring the skills, etc. based on a technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to Individual-Enterprise-Type Technical Intern Training (ii)) accredited under the Technical Intern Training Act.		
		(b) Activities of engaging in work requiring the skills, etc. based on a technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to Supervising-Organization-Type Technical Intern Training (ii)) accredited under the Technical Intern Training Act.		Period designated individually by the Minister of Justice (2 year or less)
	(iii)	(a) Activities of engaging in work requiring the skills, etc. based on a technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to Individual-Enterprise-Type Technical Intern Training (iii)) accredited under the Technical Intern Training Act.		
		(b) Activities of engaging in work requiring the skills, etc. based on a technical intern training plan (limited to those pertaining to Supervising-Organization-Type Technical Intern Training (iii)) accredited under the Technical Intern Training Act.		
Cultural Activities	Academic or artistic activities that provide no income, or activities engaged in for the purpose of pursuing specific Japanese cultural or artistic studies, or for the purpose of learning and acquiring Japanese culture or arts under the guidance of experts (except for activities listed in the columns from "Student" to "Trainee" in this Table).		Researcher of Japanese culture	3 years, 1 year, 6 months or 3 months
Temporary Visitor	Sightseeing, recreation, sports, visiting relatives, inspection tours, participating in lectures or meetings, business contact or other similar activities during a short period of stay in Japan.		Tourist or conference participant	90 days, 30 days, 15 days or period of less than 15 days
Student	Activities to receive education at a university, technical school (kotosenmongakko), senior high school (including the second half of a course of study at a school for secondary education (chutokyoikugakko)), senior high school course of a school for special needs education (tokubetsushuigakko), junior high school (including the second half of a course of a compulsory education school (gimukyoikugakko)) and the first half of a course of study at a school for secondary education (chutokyoikugakko) or a junior high school course of a school for special needs education (tokubetsushuigakko), elementary school (including the first half of a course of study in a compulsory education school (gimukyoikugakko)) or an elementary school course of a school for special needs education (tokubetsushuigakko), vocational school (senshugakko), miscellaneous category school (kakushugakko) or an equivalent educational institution in terms of facilities and organization in Japan.		A university student, a junior college student, a student at a college of technology (kotosenmongakko), a senior high school student, a junior high school student or an elementary school student	Period designated individually by the Minister of Justice (4 years and 3 months or less)
Trainee	Activities to acquire skills at a public or a private organization in Japan (except for the activities listed in the "Technical Intern Training (i)" and "Student" columns of this Table).		Trainee	2 years, 1 year, 6 months or 3 months
Dependent	Daily activities on the part of a spouse or unmarried minor supported by the foreign national staying in Japan with the status of residence of "Professor", "Artist", "Religious Activities", "Journalist", "Highly-Skilled Professional", "Business Manager", "Legal/Accounting Services", "Medical Services", "Researcher", "Instructor", "Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services", "Intra-company Transferee", "Nursing Care", "Entertainer", "Skilled Labor", "Specified Skilled Worker (ii)", "Cultural Activities" and "Student" in this table.		Spouse or child who is a dependant of a residing foreign national	Period designated individually by the Minister of Justice (5 year or less)
Designated Activities	Activities which are specifically designated by the Minister of Justice for foreign individuals.		Domestic help for a diplomat, individual on a working holiday, and nurse and certified caretaker candidates under the Economic Partnership Agreement, etc.	5 years, 3 years, 1 year, 6 months, 3 months or a term designated by the Minister of Justice (5 years or less)

Status of Residence	Personal Status or Position for Which Residence is Authorized	Examples	Period of Stay
Permanent Resident	Those who are permitted permanent residence by the Minister of Justice.	Individual who is permitted permanent residence by the Minister of Justice (except for special permanent residents of the Special Act on the Immigration Control)	Unlimited
Spouse or Child of Japanese National	The spouses of Japanese nationals, those born as the children of Japanese nationals or children adopted by Japanese nationals pursuant to the provisions of Article 817-2 of the Civil Code (Law No.89 of 1896).	Spouse or child of a Japanese national, or child adopted by a Japanese national in accordance with the provisions of Article 817-2 of the Civil Code	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 6 months
Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident	The spouses of permanent residents, etc. or those born as the children of permanent residents, etc. in Japan and who have continued to reside in Japan.	Spouse of a permanent resident or Special Permanent Resident, or biological child of a permanent resident or Special Permanent Resident who was born and continues to reside in Japan	5 years, 3 years, 1 year or 6 months
Long-Term Resident	Those who are authorized to reside in Japan with a period of stay designated by the Minister of Justice in consideration of special circumstances.	Refugees accepted for third-country resettlement, Japanese descent, etc.	5 years, 3 years, 1 year, 6 months or a term designated by the Minister of Justice (5 years or less)

We hope this information helps you to better understand and familiarize yourself with the work of Japanese immigration control and residency management.

Contact points for inquiries about procedures related to immigration, status of residence, etc.

>>> Regional Immigration Services Bureaus and district offices

Sapporo Regional Immigration Services Bureau	〒060-0042 Sapporo Third Joint Government Building, Odori-nishi 12 Chome, Chuo-ku, Sapporo-shi, Hokkaido	TEL: 0570-003259 (IP Phone/International Call: 011-211-5701)
Sendai Regional Immigration Services Bureau	〒983-0842 Sendai Second Legal Affairs Joint Government Building, 1-3-20 Gorin, Miyagino-ku, Sendai-shi, Miyagi	TEL: 0570-022259 (IP Phone/International Call: 022-256-7025)
Tokyo Regional Immigration Services Bureau	〒108-8255 5-5-30 Konan, Minato-ku, Tokyo	TEL: 0570-034259 (IP Phone/International Call: 03-5796-7234)
Tokyo Regional Immigration Services Bureau, Yotsuya Building	〒160-0004 Yotsuya Tower 13F & 14F 1-6-1 Yotsuya, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo	TEL: 0570-01-1000
	Status of Residence Registration Office	Notifications connected to an affiliated organization, notifications from an affiliated organization TEL: 03-5363-3032
	Online Examinations Office	Status of Residence Online Application Procedures TEL: 03-5363-3030
	Registration Office	Examination Record Management TEL: 03-5363-3039
Narita Airport District Immigration Services Office	〒282-0004 6th floor, Terminal 2, Narita International Airport, 1-1 Azafurugome, Furugome, Narita-shi, Chiba	TEL: 0476-34-2222 (main switchboard) TEL: 0476-34-2211
Haneda Airport District Immigration Services Office	〒144-0041 Haneda Airport CIQ Building, 2-6-4 Haneda-Kuko, Ota-ku, Tokyo	TEL: 03-5708-3202 (main switchboard)
Yokohama District Immigration Services Office	〒236-0002 10-7 Torihama-cho, Kanazawa-ku, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa	TEL: 0570-045259 (IP Phone/International Call: 045-769-1729)
Nagoya Regional Immigration Services Bureau	〒455-8601 5-18, Shoho-cho, Minato-ku, Nagoya-shi, Aichi	TEL: 0570-052259 (IP Phone/International Call: 052-217-8944)
Chubu Airport District Immigration Services Office	〒479-0881 3rd floor, CIQ Building, 1-1 Centrair, Tokoname-shi, Aichi	TEL: 0569-38-7410 (main switchboard)
Osaka Regional Immigration Services Bureau	〒559-0034 1-29-53 Nankou-Kita, Suminoe-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka	TEL: 0570-064259 (IP Phone/International Call: 06-4703-2050)
Kansai Airport District Immigration Services Office	〒549-0011 1 Senshu-Kuko-Naka, Tajiri-cho, Sennan-gun, Osaka	TEL: 072-455-1453 (main switchboard)
Kobe District Immigration Services Office	〒650-0024 Kobe District Joint Government Building, 29 Kaigan-dori, Chuo-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo	TEL: 078-391-6377 (main switchboard)
Hiroshima Regional Immigration Services Bureau	〒730-0012 Hiroshima General Legal Affairs Building, 2-31 Kami-hacchoubori, Naka-ku, Hiroshima-shi, Hiroshima	TEL: 082-221-4411 (main switchboard)
Takamatsu Regional Immigration Services Bureau	〒760-0033 Takamatsu Legal Affairs Joint Government Building, 1-1 Marunouchi, Takamatsu-shi, Kagawa (General Affairs Section, Security Department)	TEL: 087-822-5852 (main switchboard)
	〒760-0011 Hamanocho Branch Office, 72-9, Hamanocho, Takamatsu-shi, Kagawa (Examinations Department)	TEL: 087-822-5851
Fukuoka Regional Immigration Services Bureau	〒810-0073 Fukuoka First General Legal Affairs Building, 3-5-25 Maizuru, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka-shi, Fukuoka	TEL: 092-717-5420 (main switchboard)
Naha District Immigration Services Office	〒900-0022 Naha First District Joint Government Building, 1-15-15 Higawa, Naha-shi, Okinawa	TEL: 098-832-4185 (main switchboard)
Higashi-Nihon Immigration Center	〒300-1288 1766-1 Kuno-cho, Ushiku-shi, Ibaraki	TEL: 029-875-1291 (main switchboard)
Omura Immigration Center	〒856-0817 644-3 Kogashima-machi, Omura-shi, Nagasaki	TEL: 0957-52-2121 (main switchboard)

>>> Foreign Residents Support Center (FRESC)

Foreign Residents Support Center	〒160-0004 Yotsuya Tower 13F 1-6-1 Yotsuya, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo	TEL: 0570-011000 (IP Phone/International Call: 03-5363-3013)
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>>> Immigration Information Centers, etc.

Face-to-Face Consultation	The above-mentioned regional immigration services bureaus and district offices (excluding the Tokyo Regional Immigration Services Bureau Yotsuya Branch Office, airport offices and immigration centers)
Consultation by phone	TEL: 0570-013904 (IP Phone/International Call: 03-5796-7112)



Connect the World. Create the Future.
Immigration Services Agency

〒100-8973 Central Government Building No. 6, 1-1-1,
Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
TEL: 03-3580-4111 (main switchboard)
<https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/index.html>

