

Harmoni

Guidebook of the Japanese Government's Initiatives to Realize a Society of Harmonious Coexistence Between Japanese and Foreign Nationals

UP!

HarmoniUP!
Vol.3

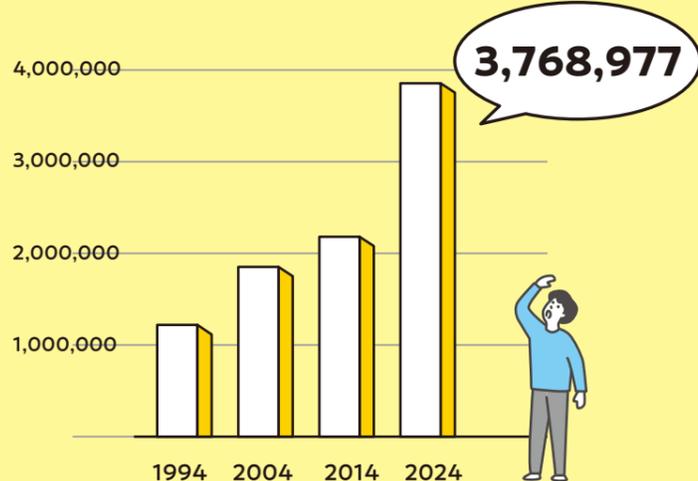
Scan here for
the HarmoniUP!
website



Creating a society where both Japanese and foreign nationals can live and shine.



Change in the number of foreign nationals living in Japan



Top 3 home countries of foreign nationals living in Japan (as of 2024)



Top 3 prefectures where foreign nationals live (as of 2024)



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The medium- to long-term project by the Government of Japan to bring about a society where Japanese and foreign nationals live together harmoniously!

Introducing the roadmap for the realization of a society of harmonious coexistence with foreign nationals.

Realizing a society of harmonious coexistence with foreign nationals is a very broad topic, and it's not clear what kind of society we will create.

We created a roadmap to show the ideal society of harmonious coexistence with foreign nationals, the medium- to long-term issues to be addressed, and specific policies.

Please feel free to use it in every aspect of your daily life.

Let's create harmonious coexistence together!

Scan here for the roadmap website! ➔



Scan here for the comprehensive measures website! ➔



Three Visions

The Three Visions for a Society of Harmonious Coexistence with Foreign Nationals



Safe and Comfortable Society
A society built together with foreign nationals. A society where all people can live safely and comfortably.

Diverse and Vibrant Society
A vibrant society in which people from different countries and cultures can fully participate and contribute.

Society that Respects Individual Dignity and Human Rights
A society in which the dignity and human rights of all people are respected, and all are free from discrimination and prejudice.

Four Key Points

The Four Medium- to Long-Term Issues to be Addressed

Issue 1: Create opportunities for foreign nationals to learn Japanese language and culture to enable them to participate more actively in society.

Issue 2: Communicate more information to foreign nationals and make it possible for them to seek advice on various matters.

Issue 3: Provide support tailored to each person's lifestyle.

Issue 4: Create systems that enable all people to live comfortably.

Survey Conducted among Foreign Residents!

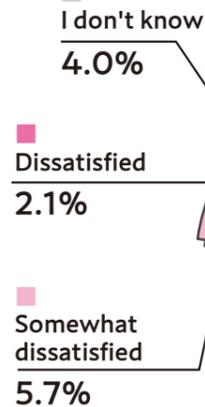
To understand the living conditions and challenges faced by foreign residents, we conducted a survey in 2024!



Q1. Are you satisfied with life in Japan?

What was the reason for those who answered 'Dissatisfied'?

1. Low wages
2. High cost of living
3. Discrimination against foreign nationals



What was the reason for those who answered 'Satisfied'?

1. Good living environment
2. Japanese culture and customs suit me
3. Good public safe

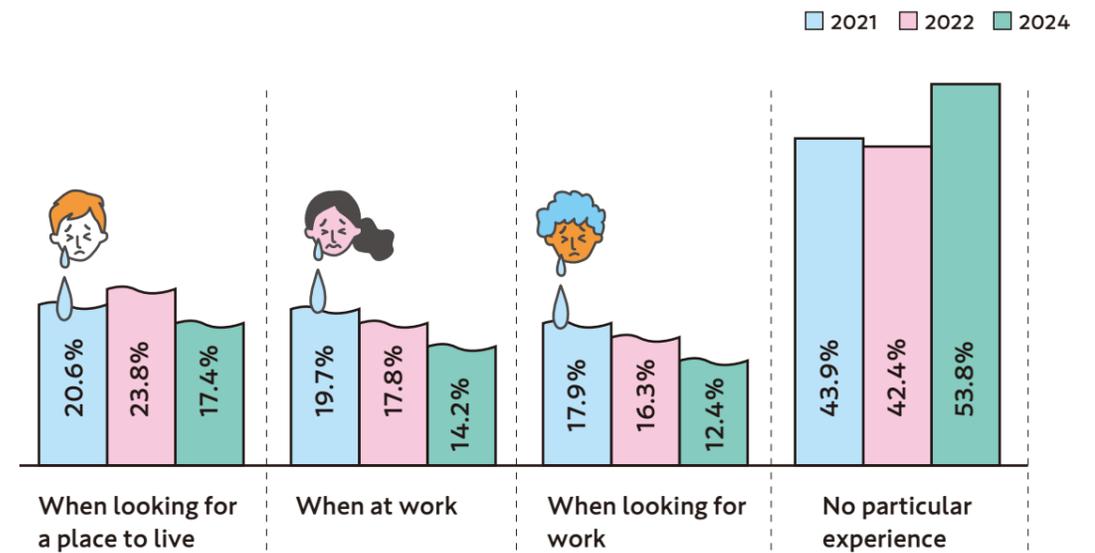


Q2. What are your difficulties with learning Japanese?

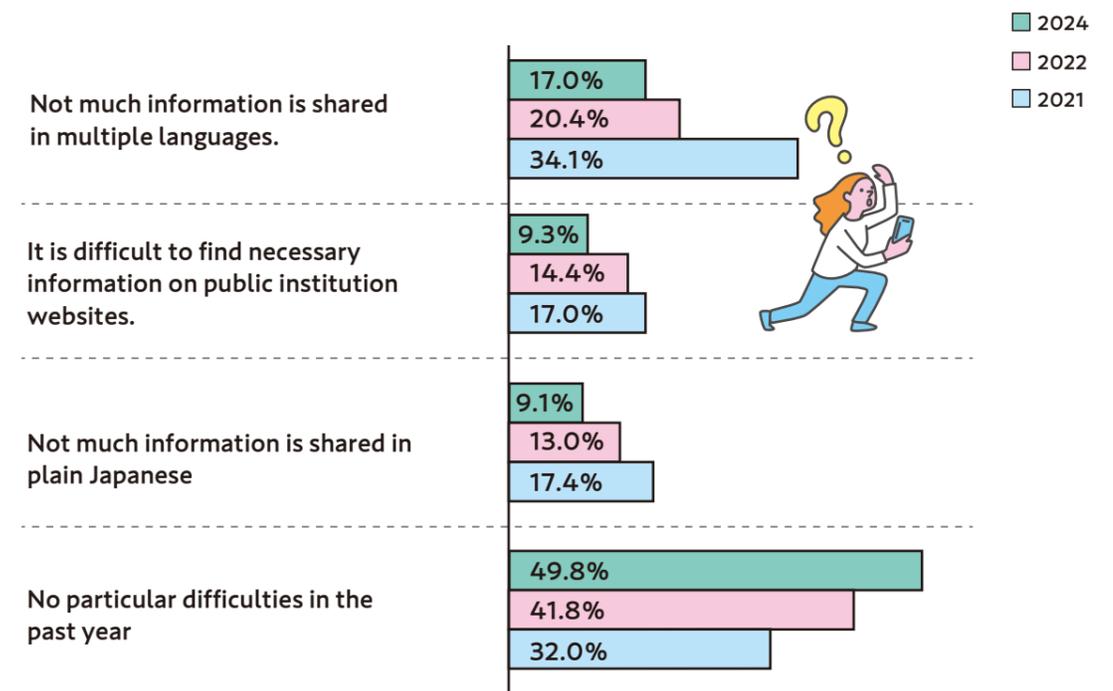
Difficulty	2022	2024
Japanese language classes or language schools are expensive	21.1%	15.8%
There are no free Japanese language classes nearby	17.7%	13.5%
There are no Japanese language classes or language schools at convenient times	14.0%	11.3%
No particular difficulties	26.9%	32.7%



Q3. Have you ever experienced discriminatory treatment? If so, when?



Q4. What difficulties do you encounter when obtaining information from public institutions?



DATA/Survey Name: Basic Survey on Foreign Residents FY2024 / Survey Target: Medium- to long-term residents and special permanent residents aged 18 and over, total 20,000 people / Valid Responses: 7,621 / Survey Period: September 17, 2024 to October 7, 2024

Scan here for detailed survey results →



ALL in One: A Complete Guide to Living in Japan

Guidebook on Living and Working

This guidebook provides a clear summary of key information on work, childbirth, education, healthcare, pensions, welfare and taxes to help foreign nationals live safely and securely in Japan.



Available in 20 languages including plain Japanese

Information is updated once a year.



Available on the website



Learn Easily with Videos!

Learn About Life in Japan by Watching Videos for the Daily Life Orientation!

We've created videos with useful information to help you live and work in Japan with peace of mind. Be sure to check them out!

Available on the website →



Healthcare

Working

Disposing of garbage

Taxes

Support Coordinator for Foreign Nationals will Provide Assistance for Living in Japan

The Support Coordinator for Foreign Nationals provides support to foreign residents who are facing problems living in Japan!

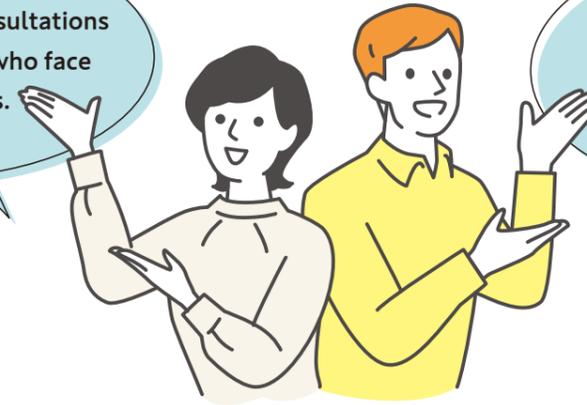
The Immigration Services Agency has been conducting training since August 2024 to provide Support Coordinator for Foreign Nationals.

Scan here for more information. →



We offer support consultations for foreign nationals who face problems in their lives.

We prevent problems by providing accurate information.



Q1. What can I consult about?

You can consult about various topics that matter to you, such as work, healthcare, child-rearing, and welfare.



Q2. Where can I find a coordinator?

Coordinators work at your local Information Counter for foreign nationals.

Scan here for more information about local Support Coordinators for Foreign Nationals. →



The Immigration Services Agency certifies individuals who have completed training and passed the test as a Support Coordinator for Foreign Nationals. In FY2024, 52 individuals were certified.

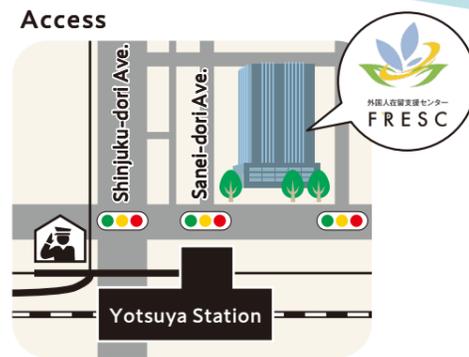
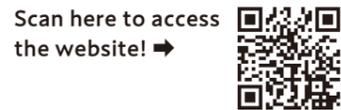
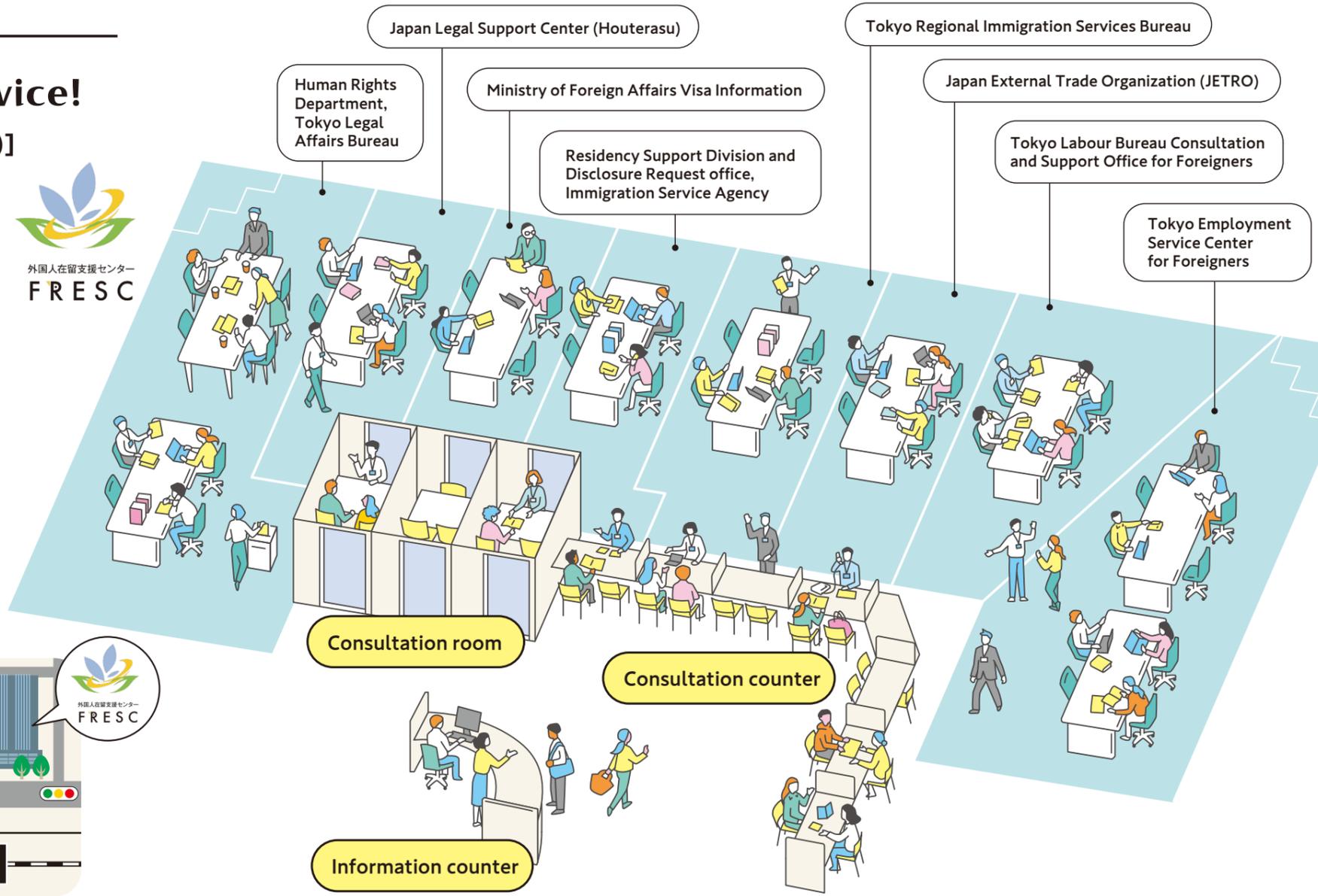


Why Not Go Ahead and Ask for Advice!

[Foreign Residents Support Center (FRESC)]

You can consult at FRESC!

FRESC stand for Foreign Residents Support Center and is located in Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo. It is a government contact point that supports the residence of foreign nationals who are living in Japan



All service counters for the eight institutions of four ministries are located on the same floor.

Therefore, /

Each institution will work together to respond to a variety of inquiries!

What should I do when I can't make it to FRESC?



For immigration and residency procedures, we're here to help!

Immigration Information Center

If you have questions or concerns regarding entry into Japan or residency, you can consult the "Immigration Information Center" located at the Regional Immigration Services Bureau in your location.



Ask at the counter, call us, or email us.



Scan here to access the website! →



A Daily Life Support Portal for Foreign Nationals

"A Daily Life Support Portal for Foreign Nationals" lets you find the opening hours and languages offered by consultation services near you. Various government announcements and notifications are also available in various languages.



Scan here to access the website! →



CLAIR Council of Local Authorities for International Relations

CLAIR's website also provides information on nearby centers where you can receive advice on everyday life in various languages.



Scan here to access the website! →



NEW

As of April, 2024

The Listing of Nationally Accredited Japanese Language Educational Institutions is available.

Nationally Accredited Japanese Language Educational Institutions are organizations that have been certified by the government to meet standards regarding instructors, facilities, and course content. At these institutions, you can learn Japanese in quality-assured courses.



Choose courses that suit your needs, "Study in Japan", "Workplace", or "Daily Life".



You can study Japanese until you reach the level appropriate for your specific goals.

*The "Study in Japan" course is designed for individuals who come to Japan with a "Student" visa status to learn Japanese.

point 1 Teachers must hold the nationally certified qualification of "Nationally Registered Japanese Language Teacher" (*1).

*1 Teacher who has passed the exam and is trained to teach Japanese.

point 2 The content of the lessons is based on the "Framework of Reference for Japanese Language Education" (*2).

*2 This document combines concepts regarding Japanese language proficiency levels, language activities, educational content, and teaching methods necessary for learning or teaching Japanese, intended as a reference for all individuals involved in Japanese language education.

Q. Are there nationally accredited Japanese language educational institutions?

This information is available on the Database of Nationally Accredited Japanese Language Educational Institutions.

Available in **18** languages

Scan here to access the website! →



Learn Japanese with videos!

Connect and Enhance Your Life in Japan

TSUNAHIRŌ

Perfect for people who have just started living in Japan or those who are learning Japanese for the first time!

Available in **20** languages

Scan here to access the website! →



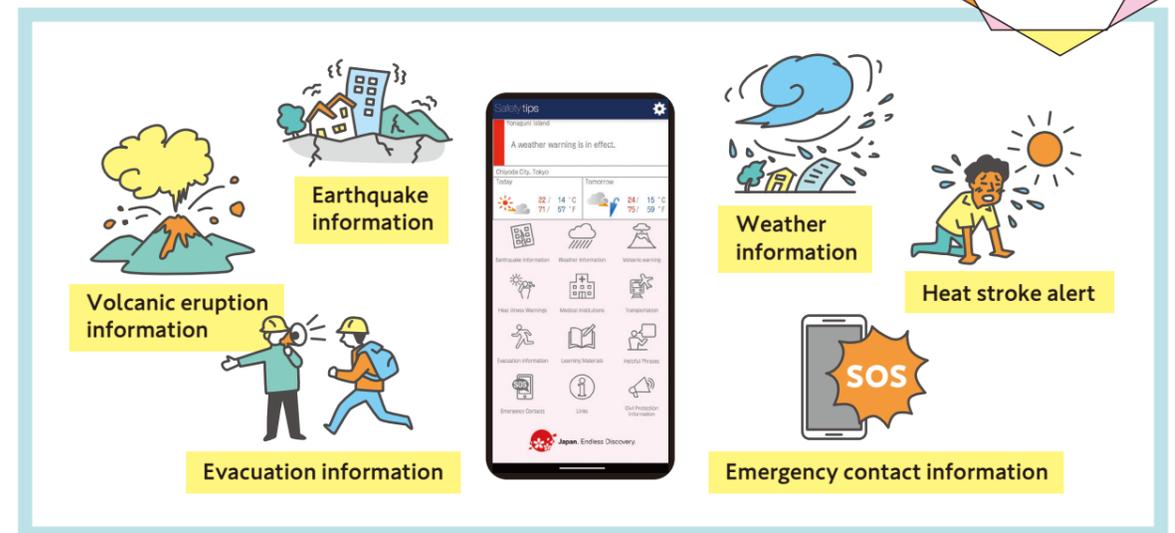
We Provide Disaster Risk Alerts



"Safety tips" have you covered!

This app sends disaster alerts within Japan.

Available in **15** languages



Free to download and use



Available on the website

Disaster Prevention Portal, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Available in various languages

Over 300 websites about disaster information and prevention in one place!

Information you should know on a daily basis



- ✓ How much damage will occur when a disaster strikes?
- ✓ How to protect yourself

Information you should look for during a disaster



- ✓ Lifeline information
- ✓ How much damage occurred?

Scan here to access the website! →



Find a Place to Live with Peace of Mind

Support for Foreign Nationals Looking for Rental Housing

Wide-ranging support is provided to overcome language and cultural barriers and make it easier for foreign nationals to find rental housing.



For foreign nationals

Useful for when looking for Rental Housing in Japan
Apartment Search Guidebook

Provides basic information on how to look for rental housing
Guide to Looking for a Home

For landlords and real estate agents

Guidelines for Facilitating Looking for and Moving in Rental Housing for Foreign Nationals

You can check it on your smartphone or laptop computers! Scan here to access the website! ➔

Safety Net Housing Information System (*)
search, view, and apply for safety net housing online.

Scan here to access the website! ➔

"I'm worried about whether I can rent an apartment."
"I can't find an apartment that meets my needs."

* Safety Net Housing refers to rental houses and apartments available to individuals facing difficulties securing a place to live.

List of Registered Rent Liability Guarantee Service Providers

Provides language support services for foreign nationals

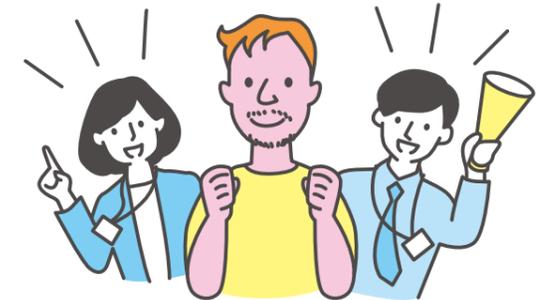
Scan here to access the website! ➔

"I can't rent the apartment I want because I don't have a rent guarantor." (*)

* Person who agrees to be legally responsible for a tenant's rental payments if the tenant is unable to pay

Search for Jobs with Confidence

Specialized facilities at Hello Work (unemployment office) assist foreign nationals in their job search by providing consultation services and introducing workplaces.



For international students and those with professional or technical residence status.

Foreign Employment Service Center

- Tokyo
- Aichi
- Osaka
- Fukuoka



International Student Corner

56 locations across the country

- Matching people to jobs through a nationwide network
- Job fairs and company information sessions
- Seminar guidance
- Individual consultation with a specialist counselor
- Multilingual consultation system assisted with interpreters
- Collaboration with universities and other institutions
- Internship

Scan here to access the website! ➔



Supporting Each Other, Supported by Each Other

All people living in Japan, including foreign nationals, have to enroll in the public health insurance system and the public pension system.

If you pay your health insurance premiums, your out-of-pocket costs will be lower when you see a doctor.



Enrollment in the Medical Insurance System →



What is the pension system?

The pension system supports those who are unable to work due to age, disability caused by accident or illness, or families where the main breadwinner has passed away.

Japan Pension Service

On the Japan Pension Service website, you can read explanations and notices about the pension system in simplified Japanese as well as in a variety of different languages.

Scan here to access the website! ↓



Here's what's included!



- National Pension
- Health insurance
- Receiving a pension, and more



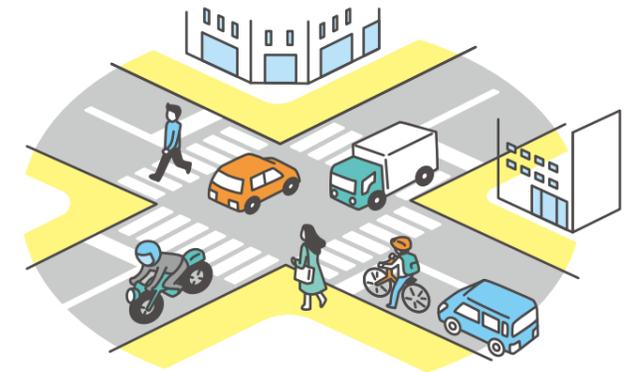
Watch the video

- English
- Chinese
- Korean
- Portuguese
- Vietnamese
- Tagalog

Now available in 6 languages!

Let's All Follow Japan's Traffic Rules

Japan may have different traffic rules to your country. Please follow the traffic rules of Japan to avoid traffic accidents.



Basic traffic rules:



Do not drive without a license



Do not drive under the influence of alcohol



Always report a traffic accident



At intersections, remember:

1. Always yield to pedestrians
2. When making a right turn, yield to vehicles proceeding straight or making a left turn

Properly understand the meaning of traffic signals and signs



For more information, please check the National Police Agency website →



There are rules for bicycle too!

Five Rules for safe use of bicycle



1.

In principle, cyclists must ride on roadways and ride on the left; only in exceptional cases may sidewalks be used, and give pedestrians the right of way



2.

At intersections, Obey traffic signals and must come to a stop and check safety

3.

Use bicycle lights at night



4.

Prohibited from riding under the influence of alcohol



5.

Wear a bicycle helmet



Other Initiatives

The Government of Japan is developing various initiatives in addition to the policies outlined in the previous pages.

Please check the Roadmap or government websites for the latest information.



Roadmap →



Comprehensive Measures →



Immigration Services Agency

To realize a society where Japanese and foreign nationals can live in harmony, we have designated every January as "LIFE IN HARMONY PROMOTION MONTH."



Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Medical Information Network (Navii) is a multilingual website that allows users to search for medical institutions and pharmacies throughout Japan.



Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

Promotion of research into multilingual translation technology
Introduction of Speech Translation Application : VoiceTra.



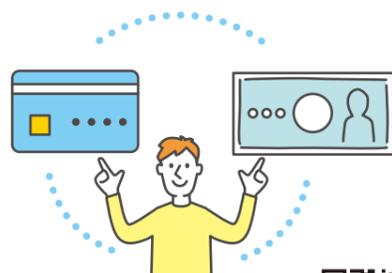
Ministry of Justice

Foreign-Language Human Rights Hotline and Foreign-Language Human Rights Counseling Services on the Internet are available for consultations on discrimination and harassment.



Financial Services Agency

Provision of useful information for utilizing financial services as foreign nationals, such as opening bank accounts.



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Provision of educational materials to develop Japanese communication skills for working and living in Japan.



Irodori Japanese for Life in Japan



Irodori Japanese Online Course



Activate Your Japanese!



Children and Families Agency

A Maternal and Child Health Handbook has been created, written in both Japanese and foreign languages.



Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Consultation desk for foreign workers to discuss working conditions and other matters in their native language.

