

If you are a technical intern trainee and you are considering submitting an application for refugee recognition, please read the following.

February 2018

Immigration Bureau, Ministry of Justice

Previously, in principle, the operations of the Ministry of Justice permitted foreign nationals residing legitimately in Japan, who had submitted applications for refugee recognition, to work in Japan after 6 months had passed from the time of the submission of their applications, but from January 15 of this year, the management of the status of residence for applicants, who are undergoing the refugee recognition procedures, has been revised.

Specifically, in the case of a technical intern trainee, if you applied for refugee recognition after absconding from the site of the technical intern training or completing the technical intern training outlined in the plan, in principle, you will not be permitted to work in Japan even after 6 months have passed from the time of the submission of your application.

(Note 1. It is possible for you to apply for refugee recognition in the middle of your technical intern training.)

(Note 2. You will be permitted to work only if there is a high likelihood that you are a refugee as defined under the 1951 Refugee Convention, or if there is a high likelihood that humanitarian consideration needs to be given due to the situation in your home country.)

If you feel like the site of the technical intern training has violated the laws and regulations on technical intern training, or you have concerns about continuing the technical intern training, and would like to consult someone, please contact the Organization for Technical Intern Training (see p. 64 onwards of the Technical Intern Trainee Handbook).