

Enhancement of “Comprehensive Measures for Acceptance and Coexistence of Foreign nationals” [Main Policies]

June 18, 2019
Ministerial Conference on
Acceptance and Coexistence
of Foreign nationals

Promotion of appropriate and smooth acceptance of foreign nationals (measures to prevent the concentration of specified skilled workers in metropolitan areas and other specific areas)

- Provide job matching support connecting foreign workers seeking employment to companies in the region (mediation for job offers and job seeking by specified skilled workers testing corporations in the construction field (new), financial support for local governments that perform job matching in the Care Workers field, support for acceptance by small and medium-sized enterprises through collaboration between the local governments and the Public Employment Security Offices (Hello Work) (new))
- Examine the adoption of preferential treatment in the procedures for changes the status of residence or other procedures (new)
- In order to facilitate use of Subsidy Program for Promotion of Regional Revitalization, implement surveys to have foreign nationals effectively settle down in the region, inform the local governments about the leading projects in relation to measures for acceptance of foreign nationals and deploy horizontally
- Provide strong financial support including regional funds for the efforts of the housing support corporations in rural areas which introduce housing and the local governments which provide rent subsidies and others

Preparation of an environment of acceptance in order to realize a society of harmonious coexistence

- Establish a “Center for Harmonious Coexistence with Foreign Nationals” (provisional name) consolidating the related departments of the Immigration Services Agency, the Japan Legal Support Center’s (Houterasu’s), the human rights organs, the Public Employment Security Offices (Hello Work), the Visa Information desk, JETRO and others (new)
- Examine the conditions of local governments for subsidies to run one-stop consulting counters, and consider the way how to respond to consultation from Japanese nationals contribute to a society of multicultural coexistence
- Development of the system for Accepting Environmental Coordinator, who will serve as a bridge between the national government and local governments
- Promote “Guidebook on Living and Working” and disaster information in 14 languages, and utilize “easy Japanese” (new)
- Reduce the occurrence of non-payment to medical institutions by denying repeated entry to foreign nationals with a history of unpaid medical expenses
- Appropriately implement pre-entry screening for tuberculosis to prevent the spread of infectious diseases
- Requests for driving license tests, and procedures to change from a foreign driving license to a Japanese driving license to be provided in multiple languages (new)
- Prepare an environment to facilitate the opening of accounts by foreign nationals at banks and other financial institutions (preparation of leaflets and others), requests for account closure at the time of return to the home country, publicizing of information that the selling or buying of bank accounts may become grounds to deny landing or grounds for deportation (new)
- Prepare a comprehensive system to reinforce the Japanese language education environment in the region, develop Japanese language learning materials using ICT
- Requests for appropriate support for foreign national children at day care centers and others
- Monitor the state of school enrollment of foreign national children through conducting a national survey (new), promote school enrollment with the cooperation of the local governments
- Promote safety and health education through the use of safety and health education materials for foreign workers in multiple languages (14 languages)

Accurate management of international students enrollment and further optimization of the Technical Intern Training Program

- With regard to universities and other educational institutions inadequately managing the enrollment of international students, implement stricter status of residence examinations, such as not allowing the acceptance of international students, or reduction of private education institution aid and others (new)
- With regard to the special Japanese languages courses for foreign students at universities that exclusively teach Japanese language education, create the same standards as for Japanese language education institutions, and establish a system that does not allow the acceptance of foreign students by universities that do not meet the standards (new)
- Strengthening the onsite inspection capacity of the Organization for Technical Intern Training
- In order to prevent the disappearance and others of technical intern trainees, quash the occurrence of misconduct such as that related to the payment of wages by obligating the payment of wages through a wire transfer into the trainee’s account (new)

Promotion of the employment of international students and other foreign nationals in Japan

- Publicize information on the amendment of the public notice on “Designated Activities” in order to increase employment opportunities for international students who have graduated from Japanese universities
- Form and horizontally develop best practices in order to promote diversity in the recruitment process and treatment after hiring suited to the diverse nature of the international students
- Develop guidelines for promotion of appropriate use of internships and publicize information about internships
- Expand the range of work in which international students who have graduated from cooking or confectionery colleges can find jobs