

A New Residency Management System Started July 9th, 2012

To International Students and Scholars

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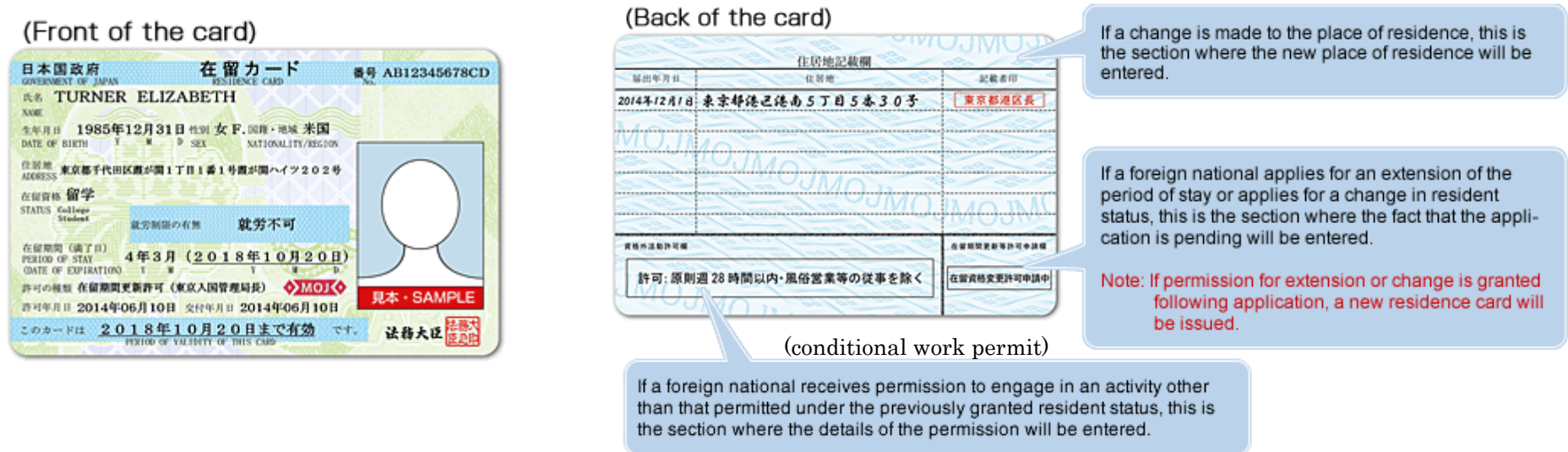
POINT 1: issuing of residence cards

Beginning July 9th, 2012, a residence card will be issued to mid- to long-term residents when granted landing permission at Kansai, Narita, Haneda or Chubu airports. In addition to a picture (face only), information such as name, date of birth, sex, nationality/region, place of residence, status of residence, period of stay, (conditional) work permits, and application status for an extension of the period of stay or a change in resident status will be shown on the card.

- Residence cards **must be carried at all times**. There will be a penalty for individuals not carrying their residence cards.
- The expiration date of a residence card is the final day of the period of stay. If you continue to reside in Japan after the expiration date, a new residence card will be issued whenever the period of stay is extended or the status of residence is change.

[ATTENTION] To international students/scholars living in Japan since prior to July 9th, 2012

Because Alien Registration Cards currently in your possession are considered equivalent to a "Residence Card," there is no need to exchange your Alien Registration Card for a Residence Card until it expires. However, your Alien Registration Card also must be carried at all times.



POINT 2: The period of stay will be extended to a maximum of 5 years

By changing the maximum period of stay to "5 years," the period of stay set for each resident status will be modified as shown below.

Major resident status	Period of stay (Those in red are new)
"Student"	4 years and 3 months, 4 years, 3 years and 3 months, 3 years, 2 years and 3 months, 2 years, 1 year and 3 months, 1 year, 6 months, 3 months*
Employment status with "Professor," "Engineer," "Specialist in Humanities/International Services," etc. Excluding "Entertainer" and "Technical Intern Training."	5 years, 3 years, 1 year, 3 months*
"Spouse or Child of Japanese National," and "Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident"	5 years, 3 years, 1 year, 6 months*

*The "3 months" period of stay was set for those who plan to stay in Japan for up to three months. In this case, the new residency management system does not apply and no residence card will be issued.

POINT 3: a new system for re-entry permits (special re-entry permits) will be introduced

Foreign nationals in possession of a valid passport and residence card (or alien registration card) who will be re-entering Japan within 1 year of their departure to continue their activities in Japan will, in principle, not be required to apply for a re-entry permit. When you leave Japan using a special re-entry permit, bring your residence card (or alien registration card) and check in the box for special re-entry permit on ED card.

- Foreign nationals who have departed from Japan on a special re-entry permit will not be able to extend that permit while abroad.
- Foreign nationals who fail to re-enter Japan within one year of leaving the country will lose their resident status.
- If your period of stay expires within 1 year after your departure, please ensure that you re-enter Japan before the expiration of your period of stay.
- The special re-entry permit system also applies to those in possession of a passport stating "在留カードを後日交付する" (a residence card is to be issued later), or an alien registration certificate deemed to be equivalent to the residence card.
- When entering or leaving Japan, if you forget your residence card (or alien registration card), you cannot enter or leave the country using a special re-entry permit.

To attain more detailed information about the new residency management system, please refer to the following:

For Information in Foreign Languages

● Immigration Information Center (Mon. to Fri. : 8:30~17:15) TEL: 0570-013904 (IP Phones · PHS · International call: 03-5796-77112)	English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese
● One-Stop Consultation Support Centers (Mon. to Fri. : 9:00~16:00) Consultation Support Center for Foreign Residents (Shinjuku) 03-3202-5535 Saitama Information & Support 048-833-3296 Hamamatsu Multicultural Center, One-Stop Consultation Corner 053-458-1510	For inquiries by telephone or in person, services are available in languages other than Japanese. Languages available differ depending on the day of the week, so please make sure to check the website. HP: http://www.immi-moj.go.jp/info/index.html

Immigration Bureau, Ministry of Justice (Regarding the new residency management system)

http://www.immi-moj.go.jp/newimmiact_1/index.html

Information is available in 26 languages such as English, Chinese (simplified and traditional), Korean, Spanish, and Portuguese etc.

POINT 4: the alien registration system was abolished

Due to the introduction of a new residency management system, the alien registration system was abolished, and beginning July 9th, 2012 procedures changed in the following way.

Notification or application procedures will be necessary in the following cases

Situation		Information on Procedures	Where to Go
When deciding on a new address, or when changing addresses	If you are newly entering Japan	The following procedures must be carried out within 14 days of arriving at the municipality you will be residing in. Entering through Kansai, Narita, Haneda, or Chubu Airports • Take your passport and residence card to your local municipality. Entering through any other port of entry • Take your passport to your local municipality. ※At present, individuals arriving through ports other than the above four airports will not be issued residence cards at the time of arrival. For those arriving through other ports of entry, a residence card will be sent to you by Simplified Registered Mail from Immigration Office after completing registration at your local municipality.	Local municipalities Procedures can be done at the main city offices as well as the various branch offices. Suita City Office • Senri Branch Office • Yamada Branch Office • Senri-Oka Branch Office Toyonaka City Office • Shonai Branch Office • Shinsenri Branch Office Minoh City Office • Toyokawa Branch Office Etc.
	If you are changing residence	When you change your residence, the following procedures must be carried out within 14 days of the day you move. If you move within the same municipality【転居届】(Notification of Change of Residence) • Take your residence card (or alien registration card) to your current municipality to report your change of residence. If you move to a new municipality【転出届・転入届】(Notification of Moving Out・Moving In) • Take your residence card (or alien registration card) to your current municipality, inform them of your intent to move out, and receive the "転出証明書"(certificate of change of address.) • Take your residence card (or alien registration card) and the "転出証明書" to your new municipality.	
After changing the status of residence from "Temporary Visitor" into "Student"		After changing the status of residence, the following procedures must be carried out within 14 days of the day your new residence card is issued. Take your new residence card and passport to your local municipality.	
When changing name, date of birth, sex, nationality/ region, etc.		Must be carried out within 14 days of the change taking place. Necessary documents: "Notification of a change of an item on the residence card," passport, photo (4cm tall x 3cm wide), residence card (or alien registration card,) the documents to prove the change etc.	Regional Immigration Offices (Osaka Regional Immigration Bureau, etc.)
When you leave an organization (employer or educational institution): e.g.) Leaving Osaka University due to graduation, dropout, termination of contract etc.		Must be notified in person (to the Regional Immigration Office) or by mail (to Tokyo Immigration Bureau) within 14 days of you no longer being a student/scholar. Necessary documents: "Notification of the Accepting Organization; form 1-2," the photocopy of residence card (or alien registration card)	Notification and Application forms can be downloaded from the websites below. [Ministry of Justice] http://www.moj.go.jp/tetsuduki_shutsunyukoku.html (*Japanese ONLY)
When you move into another organization: e.g.) Enrolled in Osaka University from other educational institution, finding a job after graduation from Osaka University, making a contract with Osaka University after resigning other company etc.		Must be notified in person (to the Regional Immigration Office) or by mail (to Tokyo Immigration Bureau) within 14 days of the change taking place. Necessary documents: "Notification of the Accepting Organization; form 1-3," the photocopy of residence card (or alien registration card)	法務省>行政手続の案内>出入国管理及び難民認定法関係手続 [Immigration Office] http://www.immi-moj.go.jp/english/tetuduki/index.html (*New forms might updated soon.)
When you have lost your Residence Card or it has become damaged beyond use.		Must reapply within 14 days of the day you realize you have lost or damaged your residence card (or in the case of it occurring overseas, within 14 days of returning to Japan). Necessary documents: "Application for Re-issuance of a Residence Card," passport, photo (4cm tall x 3cm wide), and residence card (in the case of your card being lost, a document from the police stating you filed a report of a lost or stolen article, etc), etc. ※There will be a fee for this procedure.	

➤ Starting Monday, July 9th, 2012, along with the abolishment of the alien registration system, instead of "Certificate of Alien Registration", "住民票"(a Certificate of Residence) will be issued. Those eligible are foreign residents who can be issued residence cards (those staying for more than 3 months and whose status of residence is not "Temporary Visitor").

POINT 5: conditional work permits can be applied for at the port of entry.

Persons entering Japan for the first time and who are granted the status of "Student" may apply for a conditional work permit at the port. However, those returning under a re-entry permit and those with the status of "Student" for a period of only three months are unable to do so.

➤ For international students living in Japan since prior to July 9th, 2012, or not applying for the conditional permit upon their arrival, conditional work permits can be applied at Regional Immigration Office.