

## **Article 2 : New residency management system**

### **1 New residency management system**

In July 2012, the alien card registration system was abolished and the new residency management system was introduced. The new system applies to all foreign nationals residing legally in Japan for more than 3 months. Alien registration certificates for mid-to long-term residents are deemed equivalent to the resident card until July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

#### **(1) Procedure when you came to Japan**

Newly arrived mid-to long term residents are issued a resident card on the day of your entry when the port of entry or departure is Narita, Haneda, Chubu or Kansai Airport. If a different port of entry is used, the mid-to long term resident will receive a seal of landing verification in his or her passport. The mid-to long-term resident must follow the residency procedure at the local administrative office, then a resident card will be mailed to the reported place of residence at a later date. Those who receive a resident card at airport or a passport stating “a resident card to be issued later.” must notify where they live within 14 days of finding accommodation.

#### **(2) Procedure at University**

When you change your place of residence, you must bring your resident card to the municipal office in the area of the new residence and notify this change within 14 days of moving to the new residence. If your resident card is lost, please apply for re-issuance at a Regional Immigration office.

#### **(3) Basic resident registration system**

Foreign residents who are subject to an issuance of a resident card will also be registered under the Basic Resident Register in the municipality they reside in.

### **2 Extension of period of stay**

There are certain procedures you must follow if you want to extend your period of stay. Application must be made prior to the expiry of your period of stay.

### **3 Temporary departure and re-entry**

Foreign residents who return to their country for a brief period of time or travel to other countries must apply for permission to your advisor, staff of international student services or faculty advisor. Foreign nationals in possession of a valid passport and resident 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.

### **4 Change of status of residence**

If you want to change your status of residence, you must obtain permission for a change of residence status. Enquire to the staff of international student services or faculty advisor.

### **5 Engaging in an activity other than that permitted under your Status of Residence**

International students in Japan with the status of residence of College Student or Pre-college Student who wish to work part-time in Japan must make an application for Permission to Engage in Activity Other than that Permitted by the Status of Residence Previously Granted and receive approval in advance. Enquire to the staff of international student services or faculty advisor.

### **6 Pregnancy and Childbirth**

#### **(1) Maternity Handbook**

Those who become pregnant must notify the municipal office for the area in which she resides. When you notify the office you will be given a maternity handbook, which will allow the mother and child to receive free health checks and examinations.

Result of health checks for the mother and child, records of the growth of the child, and important information for the mother and childcare are also recorded in the maternity handbook. Some municipalities have maternity handbooks available in multiple languages. Please inquire at your municipal office.

#### **(2) Birth Certificates**

When a child is born in Japan, regardless of his or her nationality, a birth certificate must be submitted to the municipal office of the municipality within 14 days of birth.

#### **(3) Acquiring Status of Residence for Children Born in Japan**

In order for children without Japanese nationality, their guardians must apply for status

of residence within 30days after birth. However, it is not necessary if they intend to leave the country within 60days.

## **7 Foreign residents information**

The Immigration Bureau has established the "Foreign Residents Information Center" to inform and advise foreign nationals. Information concerning procedures for entry and stay for foreign nationals is given over the phone or by direct visit in various languages.

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