
**New Residency Management System
and
Basic Resident Registration System for Foreign Residents**

TMI Associates Visa Team

June 1, 2012

In accordance with the amendment to the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (Immigration Control Act), a new Residency Management System will start on July 9, 2012, the effective date of the amended law.

In addition, in accordance with the amendment to the Basic Resident Registration Law, the Alien Registration System will be abolished and the Basic Resident Registration System for foreign residents will start on July 9, 2012, the effective date of the amended law.

1. The New Residency Management System

The new Residency Management System is a system that will enable a continuous and accurate understanding of the residency status of foreign nationals residing in Japan for a mid- to long-term (“Mid- to Long-Term Residents”) and allow municipalities to provide better administrative services using such information.

The system applies to Mid- to Long-Term Residents, for example, foreign nationals working for a company (those whose resident status is “Specialist in Humanities/International Services,” “Legal/Accounting Services,” etc.), foreign nationals married to Japanese nationals or are of Japanese descent (those whose resident status is “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” or “Long Term Resident”), students, and permanent residents, and does not apply to foreign nationals with “Temporary Visitor” status for purposes of travel and business trips, etc.

2. 4 Points of the New Residency Management System

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) Issuance of a Residence Card(2) Extension of the Period of Stay(3) Change in the Re-Entry Permit System(4) Abolishment of the Alien Registration System |
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(1) Issuance of a Residence Card

- ①. Foreign nationals issued a Residence Card

A Residence Card will be issued each time to Mid- to Long-Term Residents in connection with the following:

- Entering Japan for the first time (excluding re-entry by obtaining a “Re-Entry Permit” or “Special Re-Entry Permit”);
- Approval for renewal of period of stay or change in resident status;
- Notification of name change due to marriage; or
- When requesting to switch over from a Certificate of Alien Registration and an application for issuance of a Residence Card is made (after the effective date of the new system, a Residence Card will be issued on the application date), etc.

On the other hand, a Residence Card will not be issued to:

1. Foreign nationals whose period of stay is 3 months or less;
2. Foreign nationals with “Temporary Visitor” status for purposes of travel, business trips, etc.;
3. Foreign nationals with “Diplomat” or “Official” status;
4. Foreign nationals recognized by Ministry of Justice ordinances as equivalent to the foreign nationals in the aforementioned 1 to 3;
5. Special Permanent Residents (they will be issued a “Special Permanent Residence Card”); and
6. Foreign nationals with no Resident Status.

Since the “Certificate of Alien Registration” held by Mid- to Long-Term Residents will be deemed as “Residence Cards” for a certain period of time, please hold onto the Certificate of Alien Registration until a Residence Card is issued (please refer to “(4) Abolishment of the Alien Registration System” below).

Accordingly, switching over immediately to a Residence Card after the effective date of the new system is not required.

②. Information on a Residence Card

In addition to a photograph, the below information will be printed on the Residence Card (please refer to “Diagram 1. Comparison of Certificate of Alien Registration and Residence Card” below):

1. Name, date of birth, gender and country or region of nationality;
2. Residence (location of principal residence in Japan);
3. Resident status, period of stay, and expiration date of period of stay;
4. Type and date of approval;
5. Residence Card number, issuance date, and expiration date of validity period;

6. Restrictions on work; and
7. Whether permitted to engage in another activity besides the permitted activity.

Furthermore, an “alias” printed on the Certificate of Alien Registration will not be printed on the Residence Card. If an alias is registered, such alias will be transferred and registered in the Resident Registration after the effective date of the new system.

* All or part of the information printed on the resident card will be recorded on an IC chip embedded for the purpose of preventing the resident cards from being forged or altered.

- Residency on the Residence Card if entering Japan for the first time
 - A. When issued a Residence Card at one of the four major airports (Narita, Haneda, Chubu and Kansai Airports):

A Residence Card will be issued with a blank residence field.

After entry into Japan, notification of residence to the municipality is required, and the residence will be printed on the Residence Card after such notification.

* For the time being, only the four major airports (Narita, Haneda, Chubu and Kansai Airports) will be issuing Residence Cards.

- B. When arriving at a port of entry/departure besides the four major airports:

A Residence Card will not be issued at the port, and “Residence Card to be Issued at a Later Date” will be indicated on the passport instead. After entry into Japan, notification of residence to the municipality is required, and if such notification is made, the Immigration Bureau will mail a Residence Card indicating the residence to the residence.

* Notification of residence will be required within 14 days of settling at a residence.

* In addition to the above “Notification of Residence” (procedure for the Residency Management System), a “Notification of Change of Address” (procedure for the Basic Resident Registration System) must be made within 14 days of the move-in date. (Please refer to “9. Procedural Flow of New Residency Management System and Basic Resident Registration System for Foreign Residents” below.)

- The photograph for the Residence Card issued upon Landing Permission (includes when a Residence Card is mailed as “Residence Card to be Issued at a Later Date”)

Since the photograph submitted with the Application for Certificate of Eligibility or the visa application regarding such Landing Permission is entered into the immigration inspector’s database, the immigration inspector will select from the database a photograph suitable for the Residence Card.

We have confirmed with the Immigration Bureau that if none of the photographs is suitable, the photograph required to be taken during the immigration inspection will be used. In addition, a photograph provided by the foreign national may not be used as the photograph to be affixed to the Residence Card.

Furthermore, a foreign national may be able to change the photograph on the Residence Card to one he or she provides by applying for a reissuance of the Residence Card at the Immigration Bureau.

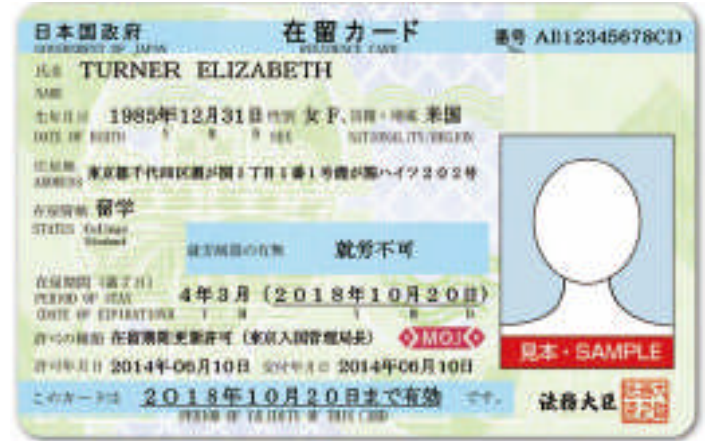
Diagram 1. Comparison of Certificate of Alien Registration and Residence Card

(Certificate of Alien Registration)

(Residence Card)

(Front Side of Card)

(Front Side of Card)



Reproduced from the cover of a pamphlet “Understanding the Certificate of Alien Registration” published by the Ministry of Justice, Immigration Bureau.

(Reverse Side of Card)

(Reverse Side of Card)

記		記	明
		発行者 職印	
		交付年月日	
		年月日	

届出年月日	住所	記載事項
2014年12月1日	東京都港区港南5丁目5番30号	東京都港区長
許可: 原則として28時間以内・風俗営業等の従事を除く		在留期間延長許可申請中 在留資格変更許可申請中

If a foreign national applies for an extension of the period of stay or applies for a change in resident status, this is the section where the fact that the application is pending will be entered.
Note: If permission for extension or change is granted following application, a new residence card will be issued.

Reproduced from pg. 4 of a pamphlet “To all foreign nationals residing in Japan: Beginning on Monday, July 9, 2012, a start of a new residency management system!” published by the Ministry of Justice, Immigration Bureau.

Please be advised that information printed on the Certificate of Alien Registration, such as an alias, address or domicile in the country of nationality, place of birth, occupation, name and location of place of employment or office, passport number, name of head of household, and signature, will not be printed on the Residence Card. (The above information, except for alias and name of head of household, will not be printed on the Resident Registration.)

(2) Extension of the Period of Stay

As the maximum period of stay has become “5 years,” the periods of stay for each resident status has been added as follows:

Major Resident Status	Periods of Stay (Those underlined are new)
Employment status with “Engineer,” “Specialist in Humanities/International Services,” etc. (excluding “Entertainer” and “Technical Intern Training”)	<u>5 years</u> ; 3 years; 1 year; <u>3 months</u> *
“Student”	<u>4 years and 3 months</u> ; 4 years; <u>3 years and 3 months</u> ; 3 years; 2 years and 3 months; 2 years; 1 year and 3 months; 1 year; 6 months; <u>3 months</u> *
“Spouse or Child of Japanese National” and “ Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident”	<u>5 years</u> ; 3 years; 1 year; <u>6 months</u>

* The “3 months” period of stay was set for those who plan to stay in Japan for up to 3 months. In this case, the new Residency Management System does not apply and a Residence Card will not be issued.

(3) Change in the Re-Entry Permit System

①. Newly Created Special Re-Entry Permit System

• Special Re-Entry Permit System

A Re-Entry Permit will no longer be required when re-entering Japan within 1 year of departure from Japan (within 2 years for special permanent residents) if a foreign national has a valid passport and a Residence Card (this system is the “Special Re-Entry Permit System”). However, if residency expires within 1 year of the foreign national’s departure from Japan, re-entry before expiration is required.

A “Special Re-Entry Permit” may be used by foreign nationals possessing Certificates of Alien Registration deemed to be Residence Cards (please refer to “(4) Abolishment of the Alien Registration System” discussed below) or passports indicating “Residence Card to be Issued at a Later Date” (please refer to “(1) Issuance of a Residence Card ② Information on a Residence Card/Residency on the Residence Card if entering Japan for the first time” discussed above).

Foreign nationals leaving Japan with the “Special Re-Entry Permit” will lose resident status unless they re-enter Japan within 1 year of departure. Please be advised that the

validity period may not be extended while abroad.

- Detailed Procedures for the Special Re-Entry Permit

There will be a field indicating “Special Re-Entry Permit” on the “Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Re-Entrant” (called the “Embarkation and Disembarkation Card”); if such field is marked off by a foreign national seeking departure by Special Re-Entry Permit, a foreign national may re-enter Japan through the same immigration procedures as before.

“Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Re-Entrant” is available at the inspection area and is planned to be made available at the Immigration Bureau. This form is different from the “Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Foreigner” that is attached to the passport upon entry into Japan (please refer to “Diagram 2. “Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Foreigner and Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Re-Entrant” below).

The ① Embarkation Card for Re-Entrant and the ② Disembarkation Card for Re-Entrant are on a single sheet of the “Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Re-Entrant” and separated by a perforation line. When a completed “Embarkation/ Disembarkation Card for Re-Entrant” is submitted to the immigration inspector when departing from Japan, ① Embarkation Card for Re-Entrant is detached and collected, and ② Disembarkation Card for Re-Entrant is affixed to the passport.

Please be advised that unless an “Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Re-Entrant” is submitted and a Residence Card (or a Certificate of Alien Registration deemed to be a Residence Card, or a passport indicating “Residence Card to be Issued at a Later Date”) is shown when departing from Japan, the departure will be deemed to be a “Simple Departure” without intent to re-enter, and resident status will be lost. In this case, the next entry into Japan may only be made upon obtaining a new visa.

The immigration inspectors should ask whether the departure is with the intent based on a “Re-Entry Permit” or “Special Re-Entry Permit,” but please do not forget to complete and present the “Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Re-Entrant” on your own.

Furthermore, when departing with a “Re-Entry Permit” or “Special Re-Entry Permit,” the completed “Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Re-Entrant” is required to be submitted at the inspection area, but this is not required for a “Simple Departure,” and the submission of the completed “Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Foreigner” affixed to the passport upon arrival is sufficient.

- Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Foreigner

The ① Disembarkation Card for Foreigner and the ② Embarkation Card for

Foreigner are also on a single sheet of the “Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Foreigner” and separated by a perforation line. When a completed “Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Foreigner” is submitted to the immigration inspector when arriving in Japan, ① Disembarkation Card for Foreigner is detached and collected, and ② Embarkation Card for Foreigner is affixed to the passport. Upon “Simple Departure,” the completed ② Embarkation Card for Foreigner is collected, and departure is permitted (please refer to “Diagram 2. “Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Foreigner and Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Re-Entrant” below).

- Precautionary Matters

The choice of whether to use a “Re-Entry Permit” or “Special Re-Entry Permit” can only be made at the time of departure, and cannot be changed thereafter.

Please make sure to obtain the existing “Re-Entry Permit” and not the “Special Re-Entry Permit” but prior to departure if your time abroad may exceed 1 year. An extension of the validity period for the “Special Re-Entry Permit” will not be allowed for reasons such as illness (such reasons are allowed for extending the validity period for the “Re-Entry Permit”).

If a “Re-Entry Permit” with a validity period of over 1 year has been obtained, departure using the “Re-Entry Permit” and not the “Special Re-Entry Permit” is recommended.

If a foreign national who has obtained a “Re-Entry Permit” but uses a “Special Re-Entry Permit” for departure, and more than 1 year passes, that foreign national may not enter Japan using the “Re-Entry Permit.”

- ②. Extension of Validity Period for Re-Entry Permit

The maximum validity period of the existing “Re-Entry Permits” approved after the effective date of the new system, will be extended from “3 years” to “5 years.”

[The validity period of a “Special Re-Entry Permit” will be the shorter of either the 1 year (2 years for special permanent residents) period from the departure date or until the expiration date of the period of stay.]

Diagram 2. Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Foreigner and Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Re-Entrant

- Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Foreigner (Front side)

外国人用 外国人出国記録 EMBARKATION CARD FOR FOREIGNER ②		外国人入国記録 DISEMBARKATION CARD FOR FOREIGNER ①	
E.D.No. 出入国記録番号 区分 PK 4764045 22		E.D.No. 出入国記録番号 区分 PK 4764045 21	
氏名氏 (漢字) (Name) Family Name Given Names	氏名 (漢字) (Name) Family Name Given Names	国籍 Nationality as shown on passport 生年月日 Date of Birth	国籍 Nationality as shown on passport 生年月日 Date of Birth
国籍 Nationality Flight No./Vessel	国籍 Nationality as shown on passport 生年月日 Date of Birth	現住所 Home Address 国名 Country name 都市名 City name	現住所 Home Address 国名 Country name 都市名 City name
航空機番号・船名 Flight No./Vessel	航空機番号・船名 Flight No./Vessel	職業 Occupation	職業 Occupation
署名 Signature	署名 Signature	渡航目的 Purpose of visit <input type="checkbox"/> 観光 Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> 商用 Business <input type="checkbox"/> 親族訪問 Visiting relatives <input type="checkbox"/> トランジット Transit <input type="checkbox"/> その他 Others	渡航目的 Purpose of visit <input type="checkbox"/> 観光 Tourism <input type="checkbox"/> 商用 Business <input type="checkbox"/> 親族訪問 Visiting relatives <input type="checkbox"/> トランジット Transit <input type="checkbox"/> その他 Others
日本の連絡先 Intended address in Japan	日本の連絡先 Intended address in Japan	日本滞在予定期間 Intended Length of stay in Japan Years Months Days	日本滞在予定期間 Intended Length of stay in Japan Years Months Days
TEL	TEL		
官用欄 Official Use Only *KA1PK476404522*	官用欄 Official Use Only *KA1PK476404522*	裏面を見てください。See the back → CL/証	官用欄 Official Use Only *KA1PK476404521*

(Reverse side)

以下の質問について、該当するものに必ず記入してください。
 Please check the applicable items.

- あなたは、日本から過去強制されたこと、出国命令により出国したこと、又は、日本への上陸を拒否されたことがありますか？
 Have you ever been deported from Japan, have you ever departed from Japan under a departure order, or have you ever been denied entry to Japan?
 はい Yes いいえ No
- あなたは、日本国又は日本国以外の国において、刑事事件で有罪判決を受けたことがありますか？
 Have you ever been found guilty in a criminal case in Japan or in another country?
 はい Yes いいえ No
- あなたは、現在、麻薬、大麻、あへん若しくは覚せい剤等の規制薬物又は銃砲、刀剣類若しくは火薬類を所持していますか？
 Do you presently have in your possession narcotics, marijuana, opium, stimulants, or other drugs, swords, explosives or other such items?
 はい Yes いいえ No
- あなたは、現在、現金をいくら所持していますか？
 How much money in cash do you presently have in your possession? _____ (円, \$, W, 兎, その他 Others ())

以上の記載内容は事実と相違ありません。
 I hereby declare that the statement given above is true and accurate.

署名
 Signature _____

- Embarkation/Disembarkation Card for Re-Entrant (Starting July 9, 2012, the card below will be changed and a field to indicate intent for Special Re-Entry Permit, etc. will be added)

(Front side)

外国人用 (再入国)		再入国入国記録 DISEMBARKATION CARD FOR REENTRANT ②		再入国出国記録 EMBARKATION CARD FOR REENTRANT ①	
氏名 (漢字) (Name)		氏名 (漢字)		氏名 (漢字)	
		Family Name		Given Names	
国籍 (Nationality as shown in passport)		国籍		国籍	
		Nationality		Nationality	
生年月日 (Date of Birth)		生年月日		生年月日	
		Day Month Year		Day Month Year	
航空機番号・船名 (Flight No./Vessel)		航空機番号・船名		航空機番号・船名	
		Flight No./Vessel		Flight No./Vessel	
署名 (Signature)		署名		署名	
		Signature		Signature	
以下の質問について、該当するものに○を記入してください。なお、特別永住者の方は記載する必要はありません。Please check the applicable items. Those who have the status of residence "Special Permanent Resident" do not need to fill these in.		1 あなたは、日本国又は日本国以外の国において、刑事事件で有罪判決を受けたことがありますか？ Have you ever been found guilty in a criminal case in Japan or in another country? <input type="checkbox"/> はい Yes <input type="checkbox"/> いいえ No		2 あなたは、現在、麻薬、大麻、あへん若しくは覚せい剤等の規制薬物又は銃砲、刀剣類若しくは火薬類を所持していますか？ Do you presently have in your possession narcotics, marijuana, opium, stimulants, or other drugs, swords, explosives or other such items? <input type="checkbox"/> はい Yes <input type="checkbox"/> いいえ No	
3 あなたは、現在、現金をいくら所持していますか？ How much money in cash do you presently have in your possession? (円, \$, W, 元, その他 Others ())		以上の記載内容は事実と相違ありません。I hereby declare that the statement given above is true and accurate.		署名 Signature	
出入国記録番号 AR 4868462		区分 51		官用欄 Official Use Only	
カード①とカード②の太枠内を出国時に記入して下さい。Please fill in CARD ① and CARD ② (inside bold line) when exiting Japan.		カード①とカード②の太枠内を出国時に記入して下さい。Please fill in CARD ① and CARD ② (inside bold line) when exiting Japan.		*KASAR486846251*	

(Reverse side omitted)

(4) Abolishment of the Alien Registration System

The Alien Registration System will be abolished due to the introduction of the new Residency Management System, but the “Certificate of Alien Registration” held by Mid- to Long-Term Residents during the time period below will be deemed as “Residence Cards,” so please hold onto the Certificate of Alien Registration until a Residence Card is issued.

①. Permanent Residents

16 years or older: until July 8, 2015

Less than 16 years old: the earlier of either July 8, 2015, or the individual’s 16th birthday

②. Resident Status for Designated Activities (*applicable only to those granted permission for “5 year” resident status for specified research activities, etc.)

16 years or older: the earlier of either the expiration date of the period of stay or July 8, 2015

Less than 16 years old: the earlier of the expiration date of the period of stay, July 8, 2015, or the individual’s 16th birthday

③. Resident Status for besides ① and ② above

16 years or older: the expiration date of the period of stay

Less than 16 years old: the earlier of either the expiration date of the period of stay or the individual’s 16th birthday

* The above resident status and age are as of the effective date of the new system (July 9, 2012).

• The Necessity of Switching Over to a Residence Card

For example, permanent residents who are 16 years or older will only have to make an application for issuance of a Residence Card within 3 years of the effective date of the new system.

Foreign nationals who are 16 years or older and whose resident status is other than that of Permanent Resident or for Designated Activities will automatically be switched over to a Residence Card when receiving approval for the renewal of the period of stay. Accordingly, switching over immediately to a Residence Card is not required. However, a Residence Card may be issued upon request after the effective date, but the requestor will be required to go to the Immigration Bureau to do so.

In regards to “Special Re-Entry Permits,” there are currently no merits to immediately switching over to a Residence Card after the effective date since both a Residence Card and

a Certificate of Alien Registration deemed to be a Residence Card may be used in the same way within 1 year after departure.

3. Basic Resident Registration System for Foreign Residents

Due to the amendment to the Basic Resident Registration Law, as of July 9, 2012, the effective date of the amendment, the Basic Resident Registration System will apply to foreign residents as it does to Japanese residents, and a Resident Registration will be made. As such, the Alien Registration System will be abolished.

The amendment is expected to advance the improvements in convenience and streamlining the administration of foreign residents:

(1) Issuance of copies of a Resident Registration stating all members of a household consisting of Japanese and foreign residents will become possible. A foreign resident will also be able to be a head-of-household.

* If your family structure changes due to the new Basic Resident Registration System, your National Health Insurance number and the premiums for National Health Insurance, Senior Citizen's Medical Benefit, Long-term Care Insurance may change. For more details please contact the respective sections of the municipality.

(2) An address change notification will also be deemed as a notification for National Health Insurance etc., thus simplifying the notification process.

(3) Notifications of the changes to resident status and to periods of stay, which are currently required to be made to both the Immigration Bureau and the municipality, may be accomplished by making a notification to just the Immigration Bureau.

4. Foreign Residents Eligible for Resident Registration

“Foreign Residents” eligible for Resident Registration are foreign nationals, excluding short-term visitors such as tourists, who have an address and to whom the following apply:

- ①. Mid- to Long-Term Resident [issued a Residence Card (or issued a Certificate of Alien Registration deemed as Residence Card)];
- ②. Special Permanent Resident (issued a Special Permanent Resident Certificate);
- ③. Person granted landing permission for temporary refuge or person granted permission for provisional stay; or
- ④. Person who is to stay in Japan through birth or who has renounced Japanese nationality.

On the other hand, the new system does not apply to foreign nationals with “Temporary Visitor” status or whose period of stay is 3 months or less, etc. Those foreign nationals will not be listed on

the Basic Resident Registration; therefore, they will no longer be able to obtain a copy of a Resident Registration or register their personal seal (please refer to “8. Seal Registration” below).

5. Transitional Measures towards Basic Resident Registration System

(1) Foreign nationals already residing in Japan by the day before the effective date of the new system (July 8, 2012)

Foreign nationals meeting requirements ① and ② below, will have a provisional Resident Registration made based on the Alien Registration, and will be switched over to the Resident Registration without having to make a new notification.

As of the reference date of May 7, 2012, foreign nationals who are:

- ①. Registered in the Alien Registration of the municipality, and
- ②. Anticipated to be foreign residents as of July 9, 2012.

The individual foreign national will be notified of the information stated on the provisional Resident Registration.

After the reference date, a provisional Resident Registration will similarly be made for a person, who prior to the day before the effective date, meets requirements ① and ② above.

* Your Resident Registration will be prepared based on the information in your alien registration. If you have moved to a new address but have not yet notified the municipality, your Resident Registration may not be prepared because your address cannot be confirmed.

* If you have not reported an extension of duration of stay or a change of status of residence to the Immigration Bureau or municipality, please complete the procedure as soon as possible.

(2) Persons newly entering and residing in Japan after the effective date of the new system (July 9, 2012)

A Mid- to Long-Term Resident moving-in from abroad is required to give move-in notification at the municipal office within 14 days of the date of moving-in.

6. Moving-in and Moving-out Procedures

(1) Changing Addresses in Japan after the Effective Date of the new system

Under the Alien Registration Act, an application need only be made to the municipality to where the person moves to, but after the effective date, foreign residents, like Japanese residents, will be required to obtain a move-out certificate by giving a move-out notification to the municipality from which the person will move-out from, and attach the move-out certificate to the

move-in notification given to the municipality to which the person moves to.

(2) Moving Abroad after the Effective Date of the new system

A move-out notification is required even if a Re-Entry Permit has been acquired.

7. Information Stated in Resident Registration for Foreign Residents

The Resident Registration of a foreign resident, similar to that of a Japanese resident, will state information regarding the insured person under the National Health Insurance and National Pension Plan, along with basic information such as name, date of birth, sex, and address.

In addition, as matters specific to the foreign resident, the below information will also be stated in the Resident Registration in accordance with the classification of the person eligible for Resident Registration, along with nationality, etc.:

- ①. Mid- to Long-Term Resident
 - That the individual is a Mid- to Long-Term Resident
 - Resident Status, period of stay, expiration date of period of stay stated on the Residence Card, and the Residence Card number
- ②. Special Permanent Resident
 - That the individual is a Special Permanent Resident
 - The Special Permanent Resident Card number on the Special Permanent Resident Card
- ③. Person granted landing permission for temporary refuge or person granted permission for provisional stay
 - That the individual is a person granted landing permission for temporary refuge or is a person granted permission for provisional stay
 - Disembarkation period (stated on the landing permit for temporary refuge) or period of provisional stay stated on the permit for provisional stay
- ④. Person who is to stay in Japan through birth or who has renounced Japanese nationality
 - That the individual is a person who is to stay in Japan through birth or is a person who has renounced Japanese nationality

On the other hand, please be advised that information, such as an address or domicile in the country of nationality, place of birth, occupation, name and location of place of employment or office, and passport number, that was registered under the Alien Registration Act will not be stated on the Resident Registration.

8. Seal Registration

Under the Alien Registration System, seal registration is available at the municipality to foreign nationals who have “Temporary Visitor” status or whose period of stay is 3 months or less, as long as they are registered foreign nationals; however, after the effective date of the new system, seal registration is available only to foreign residents for whom Resident Registration is made.

Seals registered before the effective date by foreign residents for whom Resident Registration is made will remain valid after the effective date; therefore, new seal registration procedures will not be required.

On the other hand, foreign nationals who are not eligible for Resident Registration (those with “Temporary Visitor” status or whose period of stay is 3 months or less) will not be able to register seals after the effective date. Please be advised that seal registrations made before the effective date for such persons will be cancelled after the effective date.

9. Procedural Flow of the New Residency Management System and Basic Resident Registration System for Foreign Residents

At the Port of Entry/Departure

◆ Immigration examination

When entering Japan for the first time, a Residence Card will be issued to those who become Mid- to Long-Term Residents by the Landing Permission (excludes instances of re-entry by obtaining “Re-Entry Permits” or “Special Re-Entry Permits”).

In addition, for the time being, only the four major airports (Narita, Haneda, Chubu and Kansai Airports) will be issuing Residence Cards.

At other ports of entry/departure, “Residence Card to be Issued at a Later Date” will be indicated in the passport, and a Residence Card will be mailed to the residence from the Immigration Bureau after notification of residence is made to the municipal office.

At the Municipal Office

◆ Notification of (change of) residence (procedures for the Residency Management System)

* The new residence is indicated in the residence field on the back of the Residence Card, and a new Residence Card will not be issued.

◆ Move-in notification, move-out notification (procedures for Basic Resident Registration System)

• Required procedures at the municipal office when entering Japan for the first time

A. When issued a Residence Card at one of the four major airports:

- Notification of residence

- Move-in Notification
- B. When arriving at an airport besides the four major airports and indicated as “Residence Card to be Issued at a Later Date”:
- Notification of residence
 - Move-in notification
- (If notification of residence is made, the Residence Card will be mailed to the residence from the Immigration Bureau.)
- * For the time being, only the four major airports (Narita, Haneda, Chubu and Kansai Airports) will be issuing Residence Cards.

↑ When entering Japan for the first time, procedures up to this point will usually be sufficient.

At the Immigration Bureau

After entry, if a change besides change to residence, renewal of period of stay, or change to resident status arises, the below procedure(s) is required at the Immigration Bureau.

- ◆ Notification of (change of) matters other than residence, host institutions, spouse
 - Notification of change of name, date of birth, gender, nationality/region
 - Application to renew validity period of Residence Card
(Permanent Residents, individuals under 16 years old)
 - Application for issuance of Residence Card
(if Residence Card is lost, stolen, significantly damaged or defiled)

* A new Residence Card will generally be issued on the day these notifications are made.

- ◆ Notifications regarding Host Institutions and Spouse
 - Notification regarding host institution
(Mid- to Long-Term Residents who will be residing with an employment status such as “Specialist in Humanities/International Services” (excluding “Artist,” “Religious Activities” and “Journalist”) or learning status such as “Student.”)
 - Notification regarding spouse
(Mid- to Long-Term Residents who will be residing as a spouse with resident status of “Dependent,” “Designated Activities (C),” “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” or “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident.”)

* A new Residence Card will not be issued for these notifications.

- ◆ Resident Status Examination
 - Examination of Resident Status for the renewal of period of stay, change in resident status, and permanent residency

* A new Residence Card will be issued upon approval.

- Obligation of attempting to file notifications by organizations hosting foreign nationals

The new residency management system requires organizations hosting foreign nationals to attempt to file the following notifications (Article 19-17 of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, Article 19-16 of the Ordinance for the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act).

However, penalties concerning these articles have not yet been established.

- Report of Mid- to Long-Term Residents with employment status

An organization hosting Mid- to Long-Term Residents with work-based resident status, such as “Engineer” (excluding “Artist,” “Religious Activities,” “Journalist,” and “Technical Intern Training”), should, when it begins hosting such residents (employing, hiring as a director, etc.) or terminates hosting (dismissal, retirement, etc.), notify the Ministry of Justice of the fact by visiting the Immigration Bureau or sending a notification to the Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau, within 14 days of the event. (This does not apply to organizations obliged to report their employment of foreign nationals under the Employment Measures Act).

- Notice regarding students

An educational organization hosting Mid- to Long-Term Residents with “Student” status should, when it begins hosting such students (admission, transfer, etc.) or terminates hosting (graduation, expulsion, etc.), notify the Ministry of Justice of the fact by visiting a Immigration Bureau or sending a notification to the Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau, within 14 days of the event.

An educational organization hosting foreign students is also required to attempt to report its situation of hosting foreign students within 14 days of May 1st and November 1st of each year, to the Ministry of Justice by visiting the Immigration Bureau or sending a notification to the Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau.

End.