

About mid- to long-term residents

What are mid- to long-term residents?

Mid- to long-term residents refer to those living in Japan with a status of residence such as permanent residence, dependent residence (“family stay”) and academic purposes. Special permanent residents and short-stay residents are not included.

Resident Card (Zairyu Card)

This is an identification document (card) that is issued to mid- to long-term residents in place of the Certificate of Alien Registration, which was previously issued under the alien registration system. If you have this card, you need to renew it at specified intervals.

Procedures related to issuance of Resident Card

Procedures related to the renewal or name change of Resident Cards should be filed at regional immigration offices. For details, contact those offices.

About change of expiration date and status of residence (visa)

Under the alien registration system, a change of the expiration date or status of residence had to be reported to a government office of the city, ward, town or village of residence. Under the current system, this report is not necessary.

Special re-entry permit system

If you have a Resident Card and will come back to Japan within one year, you do not need to obtain a re-entry permit. If the period of stay expires before one year from the date of departure from Japan, the effective period of Special Re-entry System will be up to the period of stay. For details, please inquire at Kobe District Immigration Office, Osaka Regional Immigration Bureau (Kobe regional government offices, 29, Kaigandori, Chuo-ward, Kobe City: 078-391-6377)

Procedure for new entry

If you have entered Japan anew, you need to report it to a government office of your residence within 14 days. In that case, bring the Resident Card issued at an airport and your valid passport.

Enquiries

Osaka Regional Immigration Bureau, Kobe District Immigration Office
(Kobe Regional Office, 29 Kaigan-dori, Chuo-ku, Kobe)
078-391-6377