

Handling of residency applications from mid- to- long- term residents and former mid- to- long- term residents who have difficulty returning to their home country due to the impact of the novel coronavirus (COVID- 19)

Up until now, the Immigration Services Agency took the measure of granting the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor (90 Days)” or “Designated Activities (3 Months)” to mid-to-long-term residents, who were finding it difficult to return to their home country having been impacted by the novel coronavirus, up until the time of them being able to return.

However, since it is still difficult for them to return to their home country, from now on, mid-to-long-term residents who have difficulty returning to their home country will be granted the status of residence of “Designated Activities (6 Months)” (see Attachment 1). Along with this, even former mid-to-long-term residents who are currently residing with a status of residence of three months or less, will be permitted the status of residence of “Designated Activities” (6 Months)” at the time of their next application such as the application for extension of the period of stay.

In addition, students who have difficulty returning to their home country and wish to work will be allowed to work (part - time) within a limit of 28 hours per week.

In addition, regarding applications from former technical intern trainees, the supervising organization or accepting organization is permitted to compile the application and act as an agent for the former technical intern trainee.

Note 1: With regard to some of the applications from residents residing in the area of the Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau, in order to prevent the application counters from becoming crowded, in principle, for the time being, only applications sent by post will be accepted at the Tokyo Regional Immigration Bureau.

Note 2: Applications for extending period of stay for “Designated Activities (6 months)” already permitted by this special measure will be accepted from approximately one month before the expiration date of the current period of stay. Please note that if you apply earlier, you will still be notified of your result one month before the expiration date of your period of stay.

Status of residence for mid-to-long-term residents who have difficulty returning to their home country

(New handling from May 21)

- (i) Those who used to reside, or, who are residing with the status of residence of “Student” (and wish to work)

Currently holding a status of residence of “Temporary Visitor (90 Days)”

⇒ “Designated Activities (Permitted to Work Part-Time within a Limit of 28 Hours a Week/ 6 Months)”

(*) Those who have been granted permission to engage in an activity other than that permitted under the status of residence previously granted within the period of stay permitted for “Student” will be permitted to work part-time within the limit of 28 hours a week even after they have graduated from the educational institution without the need to re-acquire permission.

- (ii) Those who used to reside, or, who are residing with the status of residence of “Technical Intern Training” or “Designated Activities (*)” (and wish to work)

(*) Internship (No. 9), Foreign Construction Worker (No. 32), Foreign Shipbuilding Worker (No. 35), Foreign Manufacturing Worker (No. 42)

Currently holding the status of residence of “Designated Activities (Work Permitted, 3 Months)”

⇒ “Designated Activities (Work Permitted, 6 Months)”

- (iii) Those who are residing with some other status of residence (including cases of foreign nationals coming under the above (i) and (ii) and who do not wish to work)

Currently “Temporary Visitor (90 days)” (*)

⇒ “Designated Activities (Work Not Permitted / 6 Months)”

(*) Not including tourists, etc. who entered Japan with the status of “Temporary Visitor”

Note: If foreign nationals find it difficult to maintain their livelihood in Japan, they are permitted to engage in activities other than those permitted under the status of residence previously granted (and allowed to work part-time up to 28 hours per week.) See [here](#) for details.

(The following matters are being handled in the same manner as before.)

- (i) Those who are residing with a status of residence permitting work such as “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/ International Services” and who have been dismissed due to deterioration of the employment situation, whose contract is not going to be renewed, or who have been told to wait at home.

http://www2.hiecc.or.jp/soudan/upload/file/emg/file1_en_1589332947.pdf

- (ii) Those who are continuing to job hunt or who are waiting to hear if they have been hired

<http://www.moj.go.jp/isa/content/930005182.pdf> (Japanese)

- (iii) Those who are residing on a “working holiday”

http://www2.hiecc.or.jp/soudan/upload/file/emg/file1_en_1588929018.pdf

- (iv) Those who residing as an EPA nurse or certified care worker candidate, etc.

<http://www.moj.go.jp/isa/content/930005565.pdf> (Japanese)