

Immigration control

— IMMIGRATION 2016 —





In accordance with the Act for Partial Amendment, etc. of the Immigration control and Refugee Recognition Act and the Special Act on the Immigration Control of, Inter Alia, Those who have Lost Japanese Nationality Pursuant to the Treaty of Peace with Japan (Act No. 79 of 2009) (hereinafter referred to as “Amended Act of 2009) promulgated on July 15, 2009, a residence management system was enforced on July 9, 2012 to enable the Minister of Justice to continuously keep information necessary for managing the residency of foreign nationals residing for a mid to long-term in Japan (hereinafter abbreviated to “mid to long-term residents”) with a status of residence under the Immigration Control Act.

Subjects of the residence management system for mid to long-term residents

Specifically, the mid to long-term residents who are subject to this residence management system are foreign nationals who do not come under the following ① through to ⑥. Mid to long-term residents shall be issued with a residence card which gives basic information for identification, their status of residence, etc.

① Persons granted permission to stay for **less than or equal to 3 months**

② Persons granted the status of residence of “**Temporary Visitor**”

③ Persons granted the status of residence of “**Diplomat**” or “**Official**”

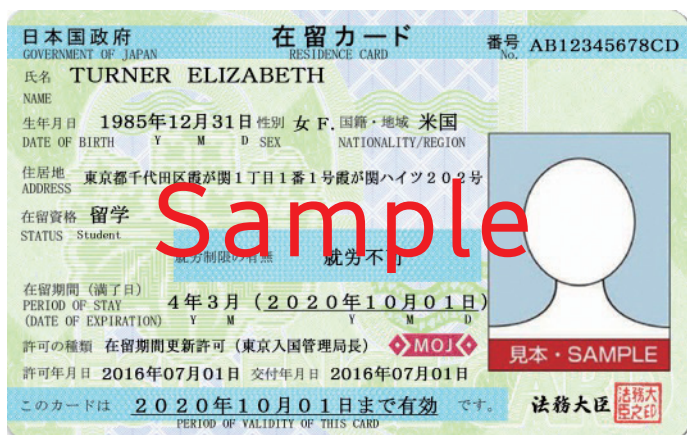
④ Staff members of the Japanese office of the Association of East Asian Relations (Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan, etc.) or Permanent General Mission of Palestine in Japan who have “**Designated Activities**” status, and their families

⑤ **Special permanent residents**
(Special permanent residents will be issued with a “**special permanent resident certificate**”.)

⑥ Persons with **no status of residence**

What is a “residence card”?

A residence card will be issued to mid to long-term residents at the time of the issuance of permission pertaining to residence such as landing permission, permission for change of status of residence and permission for extension of the period of stay. As a measure to prevent forgery, the residence card embeds an IC chip in which all or some of the matters described on the face of the card are recorded. In addition, it is also possible to check online whether or not a residence card has become invalid.



Front of the card



Back of the card



Procedures relating to the residence management system for mid to long-term residents

If a mid to long-term resident has established a place of residence or has changed his/her place of residence, such resident is required to show his/her residence card and to give notification to such effect at the counter of the municipal office within 14 days from the day on which the establishment or change occurred.

In addition, if a change occurs in one of the items given on the residence card such as a change of name or where the period of validity needs to be renewed, the mid to long-term resident is required to give notification/file an application with a district immigration office within a certain period of time.

Moreover, a mid to long-term resident with an employment status, a study status such as that of “Student” or a spouse status such as that of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” is required to notify the district immigration office when a change arises in the respective organization to which the foreign national belongs or in the marital relationship. Further, organizations which accept mid to long-term residents with a status of residence which enables employment or study shall endeavor to notify the district immigration office of the commencement and end of such acceptance and other relevant matters (except for those employers who shall give notification in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (1) of Article 28 of the Employment Measures Act).

★ Please access the following website for details ★

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



Flow of procedures in the residency management system for mid to long-term residents

