

Japan welcomes
foreign human
resources

Welcome to Japan!



A New Status of Residence —“Specified Skilled Worker”— has been created

The New Status of Residence is aimed at addressing the serious labor shortage in Japan by accepting experienced foreign human resources with specific expertise and skills.

The Acceptance of and Coexistence with Foreign Human Resources

The Government of Japan determined the Basic Policy and Field-Specific Operation Policies on Operation of the system of the new Status of Residence “Specified Skilled Worker” to be introduced in April 2019 by the Cabinet Decision based on the amended Immigration Control Act. It also decided Comprehensive Measures for the Acceptance and Coexistence of Foreign Workers residing in Japan.

The Government of Japan takes initiative in improving the infrastructure, such as the provision of multilingual information by public institutions and the infrastructure of daily life in order to welcome the rapidly increasing number of foreigners as “residents” in Japan.

Specified Skilled Worker (i)

This is a status of residence applicable to foreigners who work in jobs that require **considerable knowledge of or experience in Specified Industry Fields**

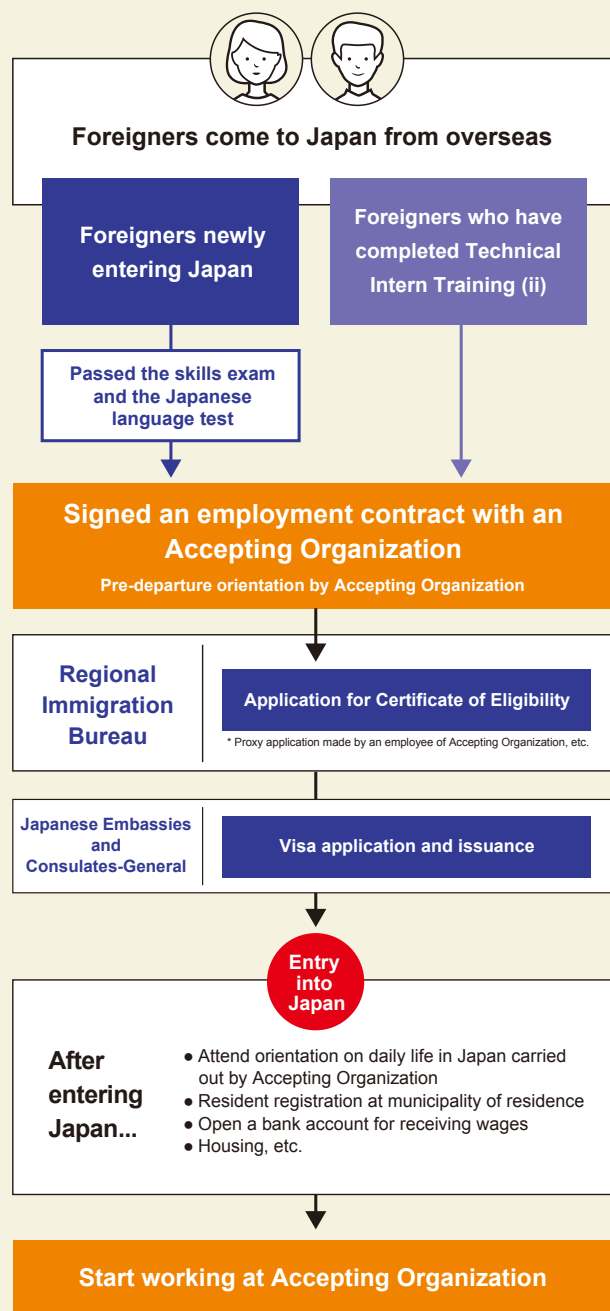
Period of Stay	Renewed annually, every 6 months or every 4 months, for a maximum stay up to 5 years in total
Skill Standards	Confirmed by exams (those who have completed Technical Intern Training (ii) are exempt from the exam)
Japanese Language Level	Proficiency in Japanese language used in daily life and at the workplace confirmed by tests to measure it (those who have completed the Technical Intern Training (ii) are exempt from the tests)
Accompaniment by Family Members	Basically not permitted.

Support by Accepting Organizations or Registered Supporting Organizations

* Specified Skills (ii) is a status of residence for foreigners engaged in jobs that require proficient skills in Specified Industry Fields.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Outline of the System



The 14 Industry Fields and Job Categories to Engage in

Specified Industrial Fields	Competent Ministry or Agency of the Industry Fields	Jobs to Engage in
Care Worker	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	• Nursing care
Building cleaning Management		• Interior building cleaning
Machine Parts & Tooling Industries	Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry	• Casting • Metal press • Finishing • Welding • Forging • Factory sheet metal work • Machine inspection • Die casting • Electroplating • Painting • Machine maintenance • Machining • Aluminium anodizing
Industrial machinery industry		• Casting • Painting • Finishing • Electric equipment assembling • Welding • Forging • Iron work • Machine inspection • Printed writing board manufacturing • Industrial packaging • Die casting • Factory sheet metal work • Machine maintenance • Plastic molding • Machining • Plating • Electronic equipment assembling • Metal press
Electric, Electronics and Information Industries	Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	• Machining • Finishing • Printed writing board manufacturing • Industrial packaging • Metal press • Machine maintenance • Plastic molding • Factory sheet metal work • Electronic equipment assembling • Painting • Plating • Electronic equipment assembling • Welding
Construction Industry		• Formwork construction • Earthwork • Interior finishing/material mounting • Plastering • Roofing • Concrete pumping • Telecommunications • Tunnel and Propulsion • Reinforcement construction • Construction machinery and construction • Reinforcing bar joints
Shipbuilding and Ship Machinery Industry	Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	• Welding • Finishing • Painting • Machining • Iron work • Electrical equipment assembling
Automobile repair and maintenance		• Automobile everyday inspection and maintenance, Regular inspection and maintenance, Disassembly
Aviation Industry	Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	• Airport ground handling • Aircraft maintenance
Accommodation Industry		• Providing accommodation services such as working at the front desk, planning/public relations, hospitality, restaurant services
Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	• General crop farming • General livestock farming
Fishery & Aquaculture		• Fishery • Aquaculture industry
Manufacture of food and beverages	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	• General food and beverage manufacturing
Food service industry		• General restaurant industry

FAQ

- Q:** Is an applicant for “Specified Skilled Worker” required to have an educational background in his or her country? Does the applicant need to have graduated from primary or junior high school?
- A:** There are no particular requirements in regard to applicants’ educational backgrounds. However, there is a minimum age requirement for specified skilled workers – they must be over 18 years of age.
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- Q:** Is it possible for specified skilled workers to change jobs and work in a different specified industry field?
- A:** Changing workplaces in the same job category (Type of work) can be permitted. Changing to a job in different job category in the same field can also be permitted if the skill level is recognized as similar to the current level through exams. Changing jobs to a different industrial field is also possible, if the similarity of the skill level is recognized between those job categories through exams.
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- Q:** Is there a need to pay a guarantee deposit to a broker or other party to go to Japan with a status of residence “Specified Skilled Worker”?
- A:** Specified skilled workers and their family members are prohibited from paying a guarantee deposit to work under the status of residence “Specified Skilled Worker”. Meanwhile, brokers and other parties are also prohibited from stipulating monetary penalties in contracts with specified skilled workers and their family members. Please never agree to a contract that stipulates the payment of guarantee deposits or monetary penalties.

Please refer to the Ministry of Justice website for details.

<http://www.moj.go.jp>

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