

Are you Safe?

Did you know that Foreigners who violate the Revised Immigration Act can be made to pay penalties and have their Residence Status revoked?



7. When leaving home and walking around town...

- Be aware that according to the Revised Immigration Law, Foreign residents 16 years and older must carry their Residence Cards at all times.
- If an Immigration or Police Officer asks to see your Residence Card, you must show it.
- However, please remember that you, too, have the right to request that such persons show their Identification certificates with their Names and Status.



8. If your Visa Status is no longer valid...

- Although your Visa Status might no longer be valid, there are circumstances that might permit you to qualify for a 'Special Permission for Residence' with the possibility of getting a Residence Card. Be sure to consult an Immigration specialist either at a supportive NGO or an Immigration Lawyer.
- Governmental services are available to pregnant women, those ready for childbirth, and children for school attendance, regardless of whether the women/mothers hold proper visas or not. So if you are having difficulties in any of these situations, be sure to consult an Immigration specialist either at a supportive NGO or an Immigration Lawyer.



9. Looking towards a more stable Residence status...

- If you do not have a criminal record and your life has been stable in Japan for ten years, you may apply for Permanent Residency. Spouses of either Japanese Nationals or Permanent Residents may apply after living in Japan for 3 years.



Publication Date: March 2015

Catholic Commission of Japan for Migrants, Refugees, and People on the Move

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of Japan Building
2-10-10 Shiomi Koto-ku, Tokyo 135-8585 JAPAN
FAX 03-5632-7920 E-mail: jcarm@cbcj.catholic.jp
Tel: 03-5632-4441

In cooperation with Solidarity Network with Migrants (SMJ) Japan's Taskforce for Action concerning the Revised Immigration Law

1. After receiving your Residence Card, be sure to register your address within 14 days!

- On entering Japan and receiving your Residence Card, you must go to your Municipal office (City/Ward/Town/Village) to register your address within 14 days. For those who will receive their Residence Card later, it is necessary for you to go first to your Municipal office with your passport and register your intended address.
- If you plan to live with your family, be sure to get a written document that certifies your relationship with the family and take it to your Municipal office. (Otherwise, on your Basic Resident Registration Certificate you could be registered not as a husband, wife, or child but simply as a housemate in describing your relationship with your family.)
- Short-term visitors who change their Residence Status or extend their stay and receive a Residence Card must present their Residence Card and register at their Municipal office within 14 days.

2. Are you sure you have exchanged your Alien Registration Card for a Residence Card?

- If you have not changed your Alien Registration Card for a Residence Card, use the following chart as a reference and do not delay in getting your Residence Card.

Residence Status	Age 16	Latest dates for Exchanging
Permanent Resident	16 yrs. and older	By 8 July 2015.
	Under 16 yrs. old	Either 8 July 2015, or birthday of 16-yr-old, whichever date comes first.
Non-Permanent Resident	Over 16 yrs. old	When Residence status period expires.
	Under 16 yrs. old	When Residence status period expires or on 16th birthday, whichever comes first.