

October 21, 2020

To all students,

Kyoto University International Service Office

Residence status of international students who cannot return to their home countries due to the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

The Immigration Services Agency of Japan has issued the following information regarding the residence status of international students who cannot return to their home countries due to the spread of the novel coronavirus.

【Overview】

International students (including former students who have now graduated) who cannot return to their home countries due to the spread of the novel coronavirus are permitted to change their status of residence to “Designated Activity (6 months),” which allows its holders to continue residing in Japan and work part-time for 28 hours per week.

From October 19, the persons eligible to apply for the visa change shall be expanded as detailed below.

■Persons eligible prior to October 19:

(Former) international students who have graduated from universities, etc., during and after 2020

■Persons eligible from October 19

All international students (including former international students), regardless of when (or if) they graduated. Those who have already graduated, have had their enrollment revoked, or have withdrawn from the university are eligible.

Please be sure to proceed the change of status of residence before current period of stay is expired. Foreign nationals residing in Japan who change their residence status from “Temporary Visitor” to “Designated Activities (6 months)” will be issued with a new residence card.

For reference:

Ministry of Justice website:

1. “Information related to Novel Coronavirus Infection(COVID-19) from Immigration Services Agency”

http://www.moj.go.jp/EN/nyuukokukanri/kouhou/m_nyuukokukanri01_00003.html

2. “Application for Change of Status of Residence”

<http://www.immi-moj.go.jp/english/tetuduki/kanri/shyorui/02.html>

The Foreign Residents Support Center (FRSC) page on the Ministry of Justice website provides information for foreign nationals who are facing difficulties due to the spread of the novel coronavirus.

Link: <http://www.moj.go.jp/nyuukokukanri/kouhou/fresc01>

The FRSC also provides a telephone consultation service (details below).

FRSC Help Desk

TEL: 0120-76-2029 (toll-free)

Service Hours: 9:00–17:00 (weekdays—not available on Saturdays, Sundays, or public holidays)

Available in 14 Languages: Simple Japanese, Vietnamese, Chinese, English, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese, Indonesian, Nepali, Thai, Indonesian, Tagalog, Burmese, Cambodian, Mongolian, Cambodian