Visa · Obligations · Procedures

Temporary Visitor's Visa for Entrance Exams

In order for international applicants to enter Japan and sit the Kyoto University entrance exams, they must obtain a Temporary "Visitor's Visa" (*Tankitaizai*) through the Japanese diplomatic mission in their country. Temporary visitors are not allowed to engage in any paid activities. Changes in status of residence from "Short-Term Stay" to another type of status of residence after entry to Japan are not usually approved without a special reason. In this case, a certificate of eligibility and a brief letter explaining the situation are required.

College Student Visa

Those relocating from overseas

Successful candidates residing outside of Japan must obtain a "College Student Visa (*Ryugaku visa*)" through a Japanese diplomatic mission in their country by presenting required documents include a certificate or notification of acceptance from Kyoto University and a valid passport. Applicants may also be asked to present proof of sufficient founds to cover their stay in Japan.

Upon request by the relevant faculty/graduate school office, the Kyoto University International Service Office will apply for Certificates of Eligibility for international students and their family members, provided the students have already passed the entrance examination and are intending to enroll at the university. For details, please inquire at the relevant administration office. Note that recipients of Japanese Government (MEXT) scholarship do not need to apply for the Certificate of Eligibility.

Kyoto University International Service Office: https://kuiso.oc.kyoto-u.ac.jp/visa/about/en

Those based in Japan

Successful candidates who are already in Japan but do not have College Student resident status (Ryugaku) must apply to obtain Student status (Ryugaku) at the immigration Bureau.

- Ministry of Justice "Application for Change of Residence": http://www.moj.go.jp/isa/applications/procedures/16-2.html
- Immigration Service Agency of Japan"Application for Extension of Period of Stay": http://www.moj.go.jp/isa/applications/procedures/16-3.html
- Kyoto University International Service Office "Change of Status of Residence: https://u.kyoto-u.jp/-xb8u
- Kyoto University International Service Office "Extension of Stay in Japan: https://u.kyoto-u.jp/j169i

Residence Card (zairyu card)

A residence card will be issued to newly arrived foreign nationals intending to stay in Japan for three of more months. For those arriving at Narita, Haneda, Chubu, Kansai, New Chitose, Hiroshima, and Fukuoka Airports, the residence card will be issued immediately after immigration clearance. For those entering Japan via any other airport, the card will be delivered to their residence after they submit a Notification of Place of Residence to their local municipal office. International residents are required by law to carry their Residence Card with them at all times.

Resident registration (Notification of Place of Residence)

All foreign nationals intending to stay in Japan for three or more months must register their places of residence with their local municipality within 14 days of moving in.

Resident Registration: https://kuiso.oc.kyoto-u.ac.jp/life/resident/en

National Health Insurance

All foreign nationals staying in Japan for three or more months are required to enroll in a Japanese public medical insurance program. For students, the most common and highly recommended option is National Health Insurance (NHI). Subscribers need only pay 30% of medical costs upon presentation of their NHI Card at the hospital reception prior to receiving treatment. The insurance premium varies depending on individual circumstances, such as family size. In the case of unmarried international students living in the city of Kyoto, the annual payment will be approximately 18,000 yen. Applications for NHI are to be submitted after resident registration to the municipal health insurance department. However, those with a Temporary Visitor Visa or three-month College Student Visa are not eligible for NHI, and are therefore advised to purchase a travel insurance policy (or similar) instead. Applications are accepted at the local City/Ward office after the resident registration.

National Health Insurance: https://kuiso.oc.kyoto-u.ac.jp/life/national/en

Work Permit • Part-time work

International students are allowed to have a part-time job, provided that they obtain a "work permit" in advance from an immigration office. Applications are available at ports of entry as well at immigration offices. Applicants must also agree to the following terms:

- ① The job must not interfere with academic work.
- ② For College Student Visa holders, the maximum hours of work are 28 hours per week (during summer and other long breaks, this is extended to up to 8 hours per day, within the confines of the legal 40-hour work week).
- 3 The job must not affect public order and morals (as an example, sex-industry employment is forbidden).
- ④ It is forbidden for students on a leave of absence from the university to engage in part-time work.