

July 16, 2021

To all current and prospective students, faculty and staff members:

**Updated Border Controls (COVID-19): Changes to the Countries/Regions
Designated as having Coronavirus Variants of Special Concern with
regards to Border Controls**

The following updated border control measures were announced by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Labour (MHLW). As Japan's border controls may change frequently, please be sure to confirm the latest information provided by official sources, such as Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the relevant overseas Japanese embassies and consulates-general.

1 Changes to the self-quarantine period at a facility designated by the quarantine station

Self-quarantine period at a facility designated by the quarantine station will be changed as follows (the corresponding measures will be implemented from July 18).

Designation added or changed:

- Russia (Moscow): Designated as countries/regions subject to a 6-day period of self-quarantine at a facility designated by the quarantine station.
- Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Namibia, Russia (Sakha): Designated as countries/regions subject to a 3-day period of self-quarantine at a facility designated by the quarantine station.

Designation lifted:

- Vietnam, Switzerland, Latvia: Removed from the list of designated countries/regions subject to a 3-day period of self-quarantine at a facility designated by the quarantine station.

For reference:

MOFA: Border enforcement measures to prevent the spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page4e_001053.html

2 Revision of the Written pledge (individual)

Written pledge (individual) to be submitted to a quarantine officer at the arriving airport has been revised on July 15. Please be sure to use the latest version.

<https://www.mhlw.go.jp/content/000806702.pdf>

3 Change to the smartphone application that needs to be installed when entering Japan

As of 15 July, location confirmation and health status report have been integrated into the MySOS app. Therefore, installation of OEL app is no longer required, and health status report via email is not used anymore.

Please note that the health report via MySOS app can only be used from the day after the date of entry, according to MHLW, as of July 16.

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare • Quarantine Station • Health Monitoring Center for Overseas Entrants (HCO):To Anyone Entering/Returning to Japan: Regulations on Mandatory 14-Day Isolation

(English) <https://www.mhlw.go.jp/content/000806890.pdf>

(Japanese) <https://www.mhlw.go.jp/content/000806869.pdf>

(Chinese) <https://www.mhlw.go.jp/content/000806903.pdf>

4 Suspension of re-entry by foreign nationals with residence status (This notice originally issued on June 15)

- As of June 1, seven countries have been designated as countries or regions subject to a suspension of re-entry by foreign nationals with resident status. More countries may be designated as the COVID-19 situation develops. Please, therefore, be sure to confirm the latest information, and exercise due caution when considering international travel by foreign nationals.
- Foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Permanent Resident,” “Spouse or Child of a Japanese National,” “Spouse or Child of a Permanent Resident,” or “Long Term Resident,” who departed from Japan with re-entry permission before the implementation date with the intent to return to Japan from one of the abovementioned countries shall be deemed to have special exceptional circumstances. However, this does not apply to foreign nationals who departed from Japan on or after the implementation date. This entry ban does not apply to foreign nationals with the resident status “Special Permanent Resident.”
- Under the above measures, foreign nationals who departed from Japan with a re-entry permit prior to August 31, 2020 and who were not permitted to re-enter Japan because the validity period of the re-entry permit expired after the country/region of stay was designated as an area subject to suspension of entry, and who have already obtained a visa using a newly issued Certificate of Eligibility (COE), will, at present, be subject to suspension of re-entry if they have stayed in the designated countries of regions within 14 days prior to arriving in Japan.

For reference:

- Kyoto University's Policy on the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) (Ver. 10) — Regarding Overseas Travel, Etc. —
- Criteria for overseas travel permission

5 Continued suspension of new entries by foreign nationals (This notice originally issued on March 19)

On March 18, the Japanese government announced that the following border control measures, which were originally implemented until the state of emergency was lifted, shall continue until further notice.

1. Suspension of new entries by foreign nationals via the bilateral business track procedures and residence track procedures
 2. Suspension of new entries of foreign nationals from all countries and regions (via residence track procedures)
 3. The special measures to relax self-quarantine requirements for short-term business travelers returning to Japan have been suspended. Short-term business travelers returning to Japan from all countries are therefore currently subject to a 14-day period of self-quarantine.
- MOFA: Phased Measures for Resuming Cross-Border Travel
 - MHLW: Border enforcement measures to prevent the spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) (10) (Continued suspension of new entries by foreign nationals etc.,) (in Japanese)

6 Quarantine measures required for newly arriving foreign nationals with "Professor" status

New entry by foreign nationals via the residence track procedures has been suspended since January 14, 2021. However, cases have been reported in which foreign nationals who are about to acquire the status of ("Instructor" or) "Professor," and who are entering Japan to fill a vacancy at an educational institution with which they are, or will be, affiliated, are issued visas by a Japanese embassy/consulate-general and permitted to enter Japan if their absence would result in a suspension of educational activities at the educational institution.

Persons to whom such circumstances apply, should confirm the necessary quarantine measures with the embassy/consulate-general of their country of departure. It has been reported the instructions may vary, and in some cases written pledges issued by the university are required.

For reference (Please see the section 2(2))

Immigration Service Agency: Regarding denial of landing to prevent the spread of COVID-19

7 Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare: Establishment of the "Health Monitoring Center

for Overseas Entrants” (This notice originally issued on May 10 and revised on May 13)

Persons arriving in Japan are required to report their health status to the Health Monitoring Center for Overseas Entrants during the self-quarantine period. For more details, please see the website below.

MHLW: Health Monitoring Center for Overseas Entrants

(English) <https://www.hco.mhlw.go.jp/en/>

(Chinese) <https://www.hco.mhlw.go.jp/zh-cn/>

8 **Negative COVID-19 Test Certificate** (This notice originally issued on March 19 and revised on July 2)

- In accordance with the Quarantine Act, persons traveling to Japan who cannot present a negative COVID-19 test certificate shall either be denied entry Japan or denied permission to board their flight to Japan from March 19, and this also applies to Japanese nationals and foreign nationals with resident status.
- The requirements to present a negative COVID-19 test certificate upon arrival at the airport has further strengthened from April 19, 2021. There has been a great deal of problems and confusion over the validity of negative COVID-19 test certificates presented at the check-in counter upon departure and during the quarantine procedures upon arrival. To avoid such problems, persons travelling to Japan are requested to obtain a negative COVID-19 test certificate in the format specified by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW).
- Any negative COVID-19 test certificates issued using test specimens or methods other than those recognized as valid by the MHLW will not be accepted by the Japanese quarantine authorities and airlines. Therefore, please ensure that you fully understand the COVID-19 test certificate requirements stipulated by the MHLW, and that you receive a COVID-19 detection test that satisfies the MHLW requirements. Please confirm that all of the necessary information is included in your negative COVID-19 test certificate, and be sure to bring it with you.
- Negative COVID-19 test certificates in formats other than the format specified by the MHLW may be used provided they satisfy all of the MHLW's requirements. However, it may take some time to verify the validity of such certificates at the check-in counter for departure or at the quarantine area upon arrival. Please note that in accordance with the Quarantine Act, persons who present such certificates may, in some cases, be denied entry to Japan or denied permission to board their flight.

- On July 1, nasopharyngeal and oropharyngeal (throat) swab/smear samples were added to the list of approved test methods for the negative COVID-19 test certificate that must be submitted upon flight boarding and entry to Japan. The required format for the negative test result certificate has also been revised in accordance with the changes to the approved test methods. Please be sure to use the latest version of the certificate, which is available from the link below:

Note: formats in other languages than Japanese/English have not yet been revised as of July 1.

MOFA: [Valid Format of Certificate of Negative Test Result](#)

(Available in Japanese/English, Arabic, Chinese, Dutch, French, German, Indonesian, Korean, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Thai, Ukrainian, Urdu, and Vietnamese)

MHLW: [Submission of Inspection Certificate](#) (Partially in English)

9 Smartphone rental (required for persons arriving in Japan who do not have a smartphone)

(This notice originally issued on March 31)

Persons arriving in Japan who do not have a smartphone or cannot install the required applications on their smartphones are required to rent one at the airport prior to entry. Individuals are responsible for their own rental fees, and the payment must be made by credit card.

Please see the URL below for further details of the rental fees and other information.

Smartphone rental service at the airport (as of March 25)

Vision Inc.: <https://www.vision-net.co.jp/news/20210319002098.html> (in Japanese)

10 Questionnaire (This notice originally issued on February 3, and revised on April 8)

- Travelers arriving via Narita, Haneda, Kansai (KIX), Chubu (CENTRAIR) International airports must complete and submit the online questionnaire prior to entering Japan. Once the online questionnaire is properly submitted, a QR code will be issued. When entering Japan, travelers must show the QR code to the quarantine officer.

Online questionnaire:

<https://arqs-qa.followup.mhlw.go.jp/#/>

- Note: Please select the appropriate language from the language options (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Vietnamese, Thai, Indonesian, and Tagalog) by clicking the "Language" section near the top of the screen.
- Brochure about the online questionnaire can be downloaded from the following link.

Japanese:	<u>https://www.forth.go.jp/news/000063743.pdf</u>
English:	<u>https://www.forth.go.jp/news/000063744.pdf</u>
Simplified Chinese:	<u>https://www.forth.go.jp/news/000063745.pdf</u>
Traditional Chinese:	<u>https://www.forth.go.jp/news/000063746.pdf</u>
Korean:	<u>https://www.forth.go.jp/news/000063747.pdf</u>
Vietnamese:	<u>https://www.forth.go.jp/news/000063749.pdf</u>
Tagalog:	<u>https://www.forth.go.jp/news/000063750.pdf</u>

Indonesian:	https://www.forth.go.jp/news/000063751.pdf
Thai:	https://www.forth.go.jp/news/000063752.pdf
Portuguese:	https://www.forth.go.jp/news/000063753.pdf
Spanish:	https://www.forth.go.jp/news/000063754.pdf

Please also refer to the attached list of “Strengthened Border Controls Imposed by the Japanese Government: Current Entry Procedures.”

Relevant websites:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)

- Border enforcement measures to prevent the spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19)
https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page4e_001053.html
- Phased Measures for Resuming Cross-Border Travel
https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/cp/page22e_000925.html
- Application for Visa for foreign nationals eligible for Phased Measures toward Resuming Cross-Border Travel
https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page22e_000921.html
- Business Track/ Residence Track/ Entry into Japan from all countries and regions (Procedures to be Followed and Forms to be Submitted for Entry into/ Return to Japan) (Countries and Regions which are Subject to Denial of Permission to Entry (Travel Advice & Warning on Infectious Diseases Level 3))
https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/cp/page25e_000337.html
- Business Track/ Residence Track/ Entry into Japan from all countries and regions (Procedures to be Followed and Forms to be Submitted for Entry into/ Return to Japan) (Countries and Regions which are not Subject to Denial of Permission to Entry (Travel Advice & Warning on Infectious Diseases Level 2))
https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/cp/page25e_000338.html
- Information on the Novel Coronavirus Diseases (COVID-19)
https://www.mofa.go.jp/p_pd/pds/page22e_000910.html

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)

- Immigration procedures for foreign nationals newly arriving and re-entering via residence track procedures (in Japanese)
<https://www.meti.go.jp/covid-19/pdf/1020Rt2.pdf>
- FAQ on immigration procedures (in Japanese)
<https://www.meti.go.jp/covid-19/pdf/1020FAQ.pdf>

Immigration Services Agency of Japan

- Information related to COVID-19
https://www.isa.go.jp/en/covid-19_index.html
- Application for residence and support for daily life for foreign nationals
http://www.moj.go.jp/isa/nyuukokukanri01_00155.html

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Strengthened Border Controls Imposed by the Japanese Government: Current Entry Procedures

(As of July 18, 2021)
●Pledges by the university ○Pledges by the individual

Japanese nationals and foreign nationals with residence status and re-entry permit (excluding entries via business truck) Note1 : For the necessary quarantine measures applied to newly arriving foreign nationals with status of "Professor," please confirm with the embassy/consulate-general of the departing country. Note2: Persons who do not submit the certificate of negative test result will be refused permission to board their flight and denied entry to Japan.				New Entry from all countries and regions via residence truck procedures / Entry via bilateral residence truck procedures 【Eligible countries for bilateral residence truck framework: Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Taiwan, Singapore, Brunei, South Korea, and China】	
Note: Re-entry by foreign nationals with resident status who have stayed in the following countries within 14 days prior to arrival in Japan will be denied until further notice. Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka		③Countries/regions designated as having novel coronavirus variants of special concern with regards to border measures: Argentina, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, <u>Costa Rica</u> , Cuba, Denmark, <u>Dominican Republic</u> , Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Greece, Ireland, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Libya, <u>Namibia</u> , Netherlands, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Russia (Karelia, <u>Sakha</u> , Saratov, Nizhegorod, Moscow Oblast, Saint Petersburg), Seychelles, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uruguay, US (Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming),Venezuela	⑤Countries and regions coronavirus variants has been detected	⑦Infectious disease warning Level of Level 2	⑧Infectious disease warning Level of Level 3
①Countdesignated as having novel coronavirus variants of special concern with regards to border measuresries/regions : Afghanistan, Indonesia, India, Kyrgyz, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Zambia	②Countries/regions designated as having novel coronavirus variants of special concern with regards to border measures: Bangladesh, Malaysia, <u>Russia (Moscow)</u> , Uganda, UK, UAE	④Countries/regions designated as having novel coronavirus strains other than variants of special concern with regards to border measures: US (Florida)	⑥Infectious disease warning Level of 2 and 3	【Currently suspended】 · For countries and regions with community transmission of coronavirus variants, visa applications and new entries are currently suspended until further notice. · For countries and regions other than above, visa applications and new entries are currently suspended until further notice	
1				●Monitor health condition for 14days prior to arrival	●Monitor health condition for 14days prior to arrival
2				●Medical insurance	●Medical insurance
3				Valid visa	Valid visa
4				Submit "Pledge(university)" (1 copy)	Submit "Pledge(university)" (1 copy)
5	Submit "Pledge (individual) (original)"	Submit "Pledge (individual) (original)"	Submit "Pledge (individual) (original)"	Submit "Pledge (individual) (original)"	Submit "Pledge (individual) (original)"
6	○Submit Certificate of negative test result	○Submit Certificate of negative test result	○Submit Certificate of negative test result	●Submit Certificate of negative test result	●Submit Certificate of negative test result
7	· Receive COVID-19 test at the airport	· Receive COVID-19 test at the airport	· Receive COVID-19 test at the airport	· Receive COVID-19 test at the airport	· Receive COVID-19 test at the airport
8	· Self-quarantine at the designated place for 10 days, receive COVID-19 test on the 3rd, 6th and 10th day.	· Self-quarantine at the designated place for 6 days, receive COVID-19 test on the 3rd and 6th day.	· Self-quarantine at the designated place for 3 days, receive COVID-19 test on the 3rd day		
9	· Smartphone to install necessary app	· Smartphone to install necessary app	· Smartphone to install necessary app	· Smartphone to install necessary app	· Smartphone to install necessary app
10	Install necessary applications to your smartphone	Install necessary applications to your smartphone	Install necessary applications to your smartphone	Install necessary applications to your smartphone	Install necessary applications to your smartphone
11	○Self-quarantine for 14 days	○Self-quarantine for 14 days	○Self-quarantine for 14 days	●Self-quarantine for 14 days	●Self-quarantine for 14 days
12	○Health status report via MySOS app	○Health status report via MySOS app	○Health status report via MySOS app	●○Health status report via MySOS app (Health report via LINE may be suspended)	●○Health status report via MySOS app (Health report via LINE may be suspended)
13	○Refrain from using public transportation for 14 days	○Refrain from using public transportation for 14 days	○Refrain from using public transportation for 14 days	●Refrain from using public transportation for 14 days	●Refrain from using public transportation for 14 days
14	· Present QR code of the questionnaire / Submit a questionnaire at the airport	· Present QR code of the questionnaire / Submit a questionnaire at the airport	· Present QR code of the questionnaire / Submit a questionnaire at the airport	· Present QR code of the questionnaire / Submit a questionnaire at the airport	· Present QR code of the questionnaire / Submit a questionnaire at the airport
15	· Health Card	· Health Card	· Health Card	· Health Card	· Health Card