

Immigration Services Agency, June 26, 2020

(Updated on April 16, 2021)

For permanent residents who have difficulty re-entering Japan within the valid period of their re-entry permission due to the impact of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) (From April 16, 2021)

Permanent residents, who have difficulty re-entering within the valid period of the re-entry permission or special re-entry permission due to the impact of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), may re-enter Japan through one of the following methods (*1). Please consult the Japanese embassy or consulate general in the country where you are staying.

(1) Cases where the valid period of the re-entry permission has expired or is difficult to re-enter Japan within the valid period

In some cases, the valid period of the re-entry permission may be extended at the Japanese embassy or consulate general in the country where the foreign national is staying.

The maximum period of extension is for one year from the expiration date of the period of validity.

If the valid period of your re-entry permission has been extended, please re-enter Japan within the new period of validity. If you are unable to extend the period, please use the method given in (2) to enter Japan.

(2) Cases where the valid period of the special re-entry permission has expired (including cases where the method in (1) cannot be used)

This applies to foreign nationals for whom the expiration date of the valid period of the re-entry permission or special re-entry permission is between January 1, 2020 and the date (*3) **separately designated by the Agency six months or more after the day** (*2) when the entry restrictions were lifted. (*4)

Please apply for a “Long-Term Resident” visa at the Japanese embassy or consulate general in the country where you are staying by the date separately designated by the Agency six months or more after the day when the entry restrictions were lifted.

Once you have been issued with a visa, you will be able to follow the necessary procedures in order to newly enter Japan as a “Permanent Resident” at an airport in Japan.

*1 Even with regard to foreign nationals who are subject to this measure, if the entry restrictions for the country or region in which you are staying have not been lifted, you

will not be permitted to enter Japan except where there are special extenuating circumstances.

*2 The date when the entry restrictions are lifted means the date when both the denial of landing for the country/region where you are staying and the suspension of the validity of the issued visa have been lifted.

For the status of entry restrictions for each country / region, please check the website of the Ministry of Justice below.

<http://www.moj.go.jp/isa/content/930005848.pdf>

*3 The “[date separately designated by the Agency](#)” is announced on the Agency’s website, etc. approximately three months in advance.

*4 Please check [here](#) for the applicable valid period for re-entry permission. After the entry restrictions have been lifted, you can still enter the country by the date separately designated by the Agency. (The re-entry permission period has been extended as above on **April 16, 2021**.)

*5 Please check the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs below for documents required for procedures (1) and (2).

https://www.mofa.go.jp/about/emb_cons/mofaserv.html

*6 If a foreign national subject to this measure entered Japan with a status of residence other than "Permanent Resident" by the date separately designated by the Agency six months or more from the date when the entry restrictions were lifted without using this measure, and if the foreign national submits an application for permanent residence within 6 months after entering Japan, the applicant is examined based on the application for permanent residence submitted, a petition ([Reference Form 1 separately provided](#)), and a copy of the previous residence card. (Other documents may be requested as needed.)

If the foreign national submits an application for permanent residence more than 6 months after entering Japan, the same verification documents as those required for regular permanent residence application need to be submitted.

A foreign national who becomes a mid to long-term resident by obtaining a permanent residence permit is required to notify his/her place of residence to the municipality where he/she will live after the permanent residence permit has been received.