

Current Situation with COE Issuance (as of July 18, 2020)

The Immigration Services Agency has suspended issuing new COEs until the entry restrictions by the Japanese government are lifted, and it is not decided when the new issuance should be resumed.

Meanwhile, on June 26, they announced the new handling of COE as “(despite the fact that COEs are normally valid for three months), a period of COE issued on or after October 1, 2019 up until January 29, 2021 will be treated as valid for 6 months from the date of the entry restrictions being lifted or until April 30, 2021, whichever comes first, as a special measure.”

The reason why they are extending the period of COE may be that is possible they intend to resume issuance of COEs before the travel restrictions are lifted.

However, even when the COE is issued, one cannot enter Japan unless a visa is issued and the travel restrictions are lifted.

Therefore, it is not clear at this moment when one can enter Japan, because it is all affected by the time of resuming of COE issuance and by the Japanese government's decision on the travel restrictions.

If you have any other specific questions about the COE application, please directly contact the Center for International Education at cie-zairyu@list.waseda.jp.

Best regards,

SPSE Administrative Office