

Change of Application Documents for the "Student" Status of Residence

According to a notice from Immigration Service Agency of Japan, the application documents required for procedures related to the "Student" status of residence will be changed. Please see the details via the following link.

https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/10_00258.html

This notice applies to applicants and current students of the Japanese Language Program (JLP) who are submitting applications related to "Student" status of residence. Although the Agency's announcement mentions interviews, our center will not conduct interviews; therefore, the individuals subject to this requirement are required to submit the documents listed below. Please prepare the documents as soon as possible accordingly. This applies to international students applying for the Certificate of Eligibility (COE) (*1) required to obtain a "student" visa, as well as those applying for a change of status of residence to "Student" visa or an extension of period of stay of "Student" visa.

*1 A COE is a pre-entry examination to certify that your intended activities in Japan correspond to a specific visa. Applicants for a new student visa must receive this certificate before applying for the visa.

Details

1. Who and from when this change affects:

Eligible Individuals		Effective from
JLP applicants	Those applying for student status of residence.	Starting with the October 2026 intake
	Those extending the period of student status of residence. *2	
	Those changing their status of residence to student status of residence. *2	
JLP Current students	Those extending the period of their student status of residence. *2	Starting with July 2026 application
	Those changing their status of residence to student status of residence. *2	

*2 This does not apply if there have been no changes to the educational institution you are enrolled in since your last application for the status of residence.

2. Required Documents: (Please prepare either (A) or (B))

(A) Certificate of Graduation from a Higher Education Institution

For applicants who are nationals of a country or region listed in the table published on the Immigration Services Agency of Japan website and who have graduated from a foreign higher education institution (e.g., a university), a graduation certificate from that institution is required.

List: <https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/content/001461166.pdf> (Japanese Only)

(B) Certificate of Japanese Language Test

- Prepare the original certificate from any of the tests at A1 level or above, as per the "日本語教育の参照枠 (Reference Framework for Japanese Language Education)" outlined, in the "日本語教育機関へ入学するための日本語能力について (Japanese Language Proficiency for Admission to a Japanese Language Institution)" section on the Immigration Services Agency of Japan website (Japanese Only).
https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/applications/resources/nyuukokukanri07_00159.html
- For further information about test locations, application periods, test dates, fees, and validity periods, please visit the official websites of the respective tests.
- The document should be in Japanese or English.

3. When and Where to Submit:

Individuals		When to Submit	Where to Submit
JLP Applicants	Those applying for student status of residence.	At the time of JLP Application	Center for Japanese Language
	Those extending the period of student status of residence. *2		
	Those changing their status of residence to student status of residence. *2		
JLP Current Students	Those extending the period of their student status of residence. *2	When submitting applications for status of residence after July 2026	Regional Immigration Service Bureau (Where to submit your application)
	Those changing their status of residence to student status of residence. *2		

*2 This does not apply if there have been no changes to the educational institution you are enrolled in since your last application for the status of residence.

4. Further Information:

For details on how to submit the documents, please see the Japanese Language Program Admission Guideline for academic year 2027 and beyond, which will be posted on our website in the future. <https://www.waseda.jp/inst/cjl/en/applicants/launch/admission/>

5. Notes:

Please note that the Center for Japanese Language is not responsible for any denials of COE issuance, permission for Change of Status of Residence, or permission to Extension of Period of Stay. These decisions are made by the Immigration Service Agency.

6. Contact Information:

Admissions Office

Center for Japanese Language, Waseda University

Email: cjl-ao@list.waseda.jp