



# How to change working visa?



## You have to know if you want to stay living in Japan

In case of working visa, most of them are “Specialist in Humanities” and “International Services” which are for works such as interpretation, translation, overseas trade and commerce. There are also various visa such as “Engineer” for workers in engineering and IT industry, “Education” for language teachers, and “Skilled Labor” such as chefs. Those visas reflect educational background and professional background. “Engineer” visa is for persons who studied science course and “Skilled Labor” visa is for a chef who has experienced the work over 10 years. Therefore, it is difficult to change the current visa to other visa.

When you have “Specialist in Humanities” and “International Services” and worked as interpreter or translator but you want to work at IT company and to be a programmer, you have to get a visa for “Engineer” but it may be difficult unless you can show your programming skill with the educational background or professional background. Career change is difficult if it is not your specialized field. If you have 3-year visa and you want to change job during the term of the visa, you have to check if you can work with your current visa at the Immigration Control Act. In this case you have to get confirmation with Certificate of Eligibility for Resident Status. You should be careful because if this confirmation is not performed, your visa may be disallowed at visa extension application because your work and the visa do not meet.

If you have the Status of Residence to work and you change career, your company went bankrupt or you are fired, you have to report it to your local Immigration Bureau within 2 weeks. You have to be careful because this is a new rule.

If you have the working visa and your company went bankrupt or you are fired, you may be able to apply visa extension for a while by telling that you are searching for new work. If you have a note that you are going to a job-placement office or you are in job training, take the certificate of attendance to the Immigration Bureau to apply visa extension. However, the visa extension period may be for a maximum of about six months.

When you have working visa and you married with a Japanese or a person who is a permanent resident, you may change your visa to “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” or “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident”. If you already have working visa, you don’t have to change the visa even when you are married. However, if you want to have a permanent visa in the future, you’d better change the visa to “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” or “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident”.

In case you have the working visa, you have to stay Japan for at least 10 years and being employed for 5 years to be able to apply permanent residence visa. However, if you are “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” or “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident”, and you have been married for three years or more, and keep staying 1 year in Japan, you can apply permanent residence visa.

Commented by: Miho Fujibayashi, Administrative scrivener

## How much is your hourly fee? Do you know minimum wage in Saitama?

Minimum wage in Saitama is 785 yen on Oct. 20, last year. There is a special minimum wage as shown below and the wage is prior to the minimum wage in Saitama.

Non-ferrous metal manufacturing business ... 842 yen

Retailing industry of commercial goods ... 810 yen

Manufacturing business of electronic component, device, electronic circuit, electric machine apparatus, information communication machine apparatus ... 846 yen

Transportation machine apparatus manufacturing business ... 857 yen

Optic machine apparatus, lens, watch, parts manufacturing ... 857 yen

Automobile retailing industry ... 857 yen



## PC classroom of Fujimino International Cultural Exchange Center

At FICEC, PC classroom is open for foreign nationality on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 13:00. Professional PC teacher will teach to beginners and those who want to ask how to use particular program and others. Various PC classrooms are held in your local community centers. For details, please contact FICEC.

## Parents' manner at graduation ceremony and entrance ceremony

Now is the season of graduation and entrance ceremonies.

Here are some manners that parents should know.

If you don't know what to wear at the ceremony, you should wear a bit gorgeous suit but not too colorful. At the graduation ceremony, dark blue or gray suit is recommended. At the entrance ceremony, you may wear more colorful suit or one-piece suit. You should not wear a flashy dress or too casual such as jeans and shirts.

During the ceremony, you should be careful not talk aloud, set your cellular phone to manner mode and not to move around carrying a camera. Please be careful not to be a bad parent on your child's memorable day.



## How to count number in Japanese?

Do you know how to count number in Japanese?

Counting number in Japanese is very difficult. When you read 1, 2, 3, you say "ichi, ni, san". However, when you count people, you say "hitori, futari, san-nin". To count small things, "ikko, niko, sannko". To count long and thin things such as pencils, "ippon, nihon, sanbon". To count machines or cars, "ichidai, nidai, sandai".

There are more different ways to count in Japanese. If you want to know more, come to Japanese class in FICEC on every Thursday, 10:00 to 12:00. Tel. 049-256-4290

