

1-4 Bringing your family

If you have family members from your home country who would like to live with you in Japan, it is necessary for them to have one of the visas explained below. You may apply for visas on their behalf to obtain them.

Family Visa

Your spouse and children may obtain a family visa. After your arrival in Japan, you must go to the Immigration Bureau and apply for a Certificate of Eligibility on behalf of your family member(s).

The following documents are required to apply for a family visa:

- (1) Application for Certificate of Eligibility (available for download on the Ministry of Justice's website: <http://www.immi-moj.go.jp/english/tetuduki/kanri/shyorui/01.html>)
- (2) Copy of Applicant's Passport
- (3) 1 (one) recent photograph of applicant attached to application form (Taken within 3 months, 4 cm × 3 cm on glossy photo paper, nothing in background)
- (4) Long-type No.3 envelop (12 cm × 23.5 cm) with applicant's name and return address and 392-yen stamp (Applications for up to 4 people can be returned in the same envelope)
- (5) Documents proving marital or parent-child relationship
 - For Chinese: Original Marriage Certificate and photocopy OR notarized copy (for spouse); Original Birth Certificate and photocopy OR notarized copy (for child)
 - For Korean: Original Marriage Certificate or Certificate of Family Relation
 - For Taiwanese: Original Family Register
 - For other nationalities: Original Marriage Certificate and photocopy (for spouse) or; Original Birth Certificate and photocopy (for child)Note: Japanese or English translations are necessary for all documents written in a language other than Japanese or English. If any original documents should need to be returned, please mention this at time of application.

【Supporter】

- (6) Copy of passport (ID page, A4 paper size)
- (7) Copy of both sides of residence card (A4 paper size)
- (8) Certificate of Enrollment and Official School Transcript (if a student); Certificate of Employment or Certificate of Registration in which remuneration is noted (if working)
- (9) Copy of Residence Rental Contract, or Certificate of Dormitory Living
- (10) Documents showing how living expenses will be paid
 - Student, Independently Financed Researcher, etc. —
 - Scholarship Certificate (if receiving a scholarship)
 - Copy of front cover and all pages of supporter bankbook, copy of part-time pay slips for last 3 months, etc. (if funds come from supporter)
 - Employee and others—
 - Taxation Certificate and Certificate of Tax Payment of most recent year issued by city/ward office, if able to obtain
 - Certificate of Financial Support by other organization (like JSPS)

Temporary Visa (for visiting relatives)

Your parents, brothers and sisters may obtain visas as temporary visitors. A family visa is solely for the purpose of having your spouse or children live with you. If you want to invite other family members (besides your spouse and children) from countries which have not signed the Visa Exemption Agreement with Japan, they must apply for a temporary visa (for visiting relatives) in person at the Japanese Embassy or Consular Office in their countries. For more details, refer to the Foreign Ministry's website:

http://www.mofa.go.jp/j_info/visit/visa/index.html

Please note: The cost of living in Japan, especially in and around Tokyo, is very high. Make sure you have the means to support your family members and prepare accommodation for them before they arrive in Japan.