

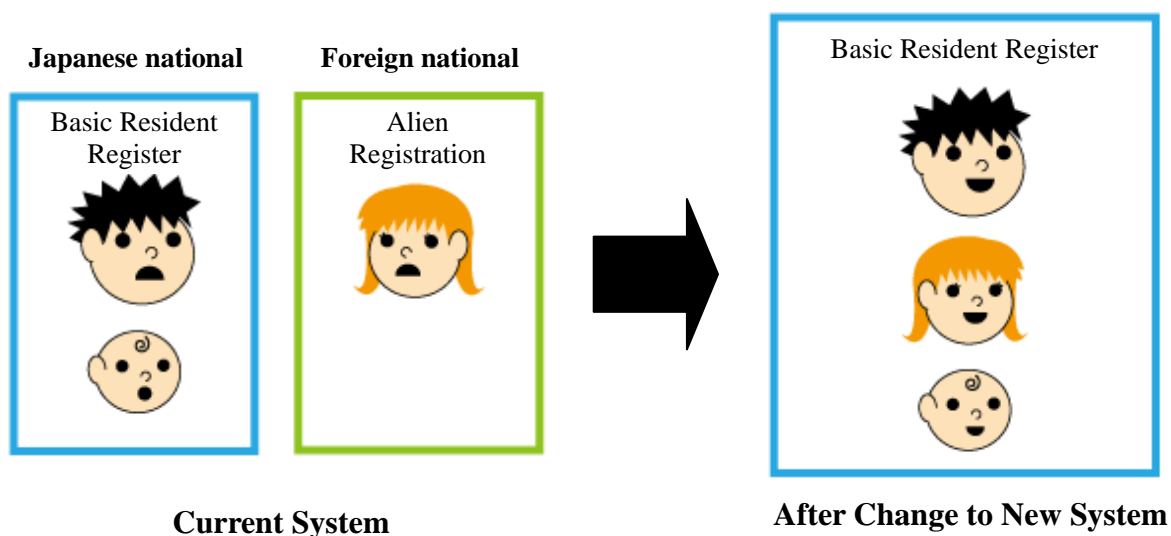
The Registration System for Foreign Residents is Changing!

太田市役所市民課「外国人住民に関する登録の制度が変わります！」・英語版

At the 171st session of Diet, “the law for partial amendments to the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (Immigration Control Act) and Special Act on the Immigration Control of, Inter Alia, Those Who Have Lost Japanese Nationality Pursuant to the Treaty of Peace with Japan (Special Act on Immigration Control)” and “the law for partial amendment to the Basic Resident Registration Law” were passed and enacted, and they were promulgated on July 15, 2009.

As a result, the Alien Registration System will be abolished and the Basic Resident Registration will become applicable to foreign residents as well as Japanese nationals.

These changes are scheduled to come into effect around July 2012.

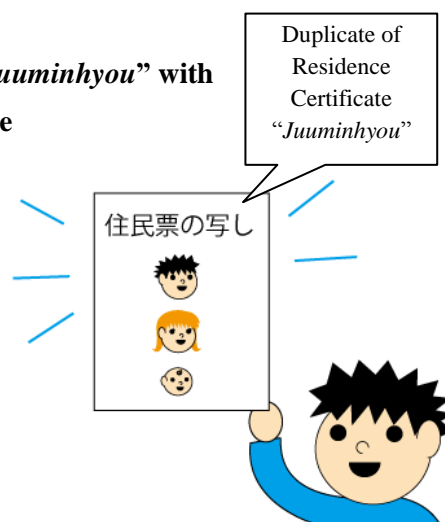


Main Changes to Take Note of

■ Issuance of duplicates, etc., of the Residence Certificate “*Juuminhyou*” with all members of the household inscribed will become feasible

It will become as feasible to issue Residence Certificate “*Juuminhyou*” duplicates, etc., to foreign nationals as it is to Japanese nationals.

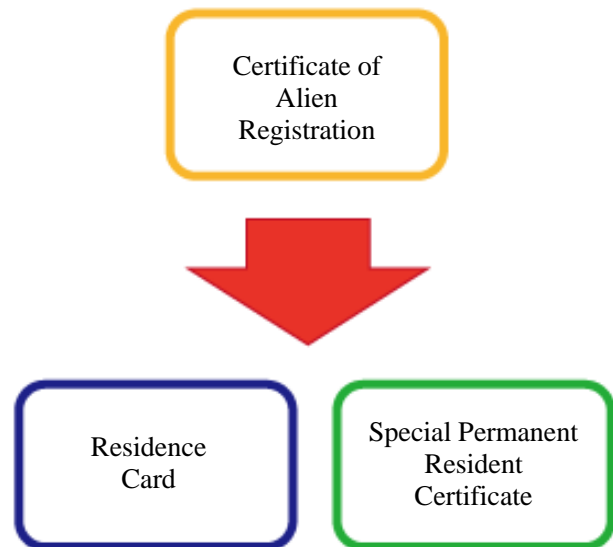
Also, even in households comprising both Japanese and foreign nationals, it will become feasible to issue duplicates, etc., of the Residence Certificate with all household members inscribed.



■ A Residence “*Zairyuu*” Card or Special Permanent Resident Certificate “*Tokubetsu Eijuusha Shoumeisho*” will be issued to replace the Certificate of Alien Registration.

With the abolishment of the Alien Registration System, in place of a Certificate of Alien Registration (Foreign Resident Registration Card), a Residence Card (*Zairyuu* Card) or a Special Permanent Resident Certificate (*Tokubetsu Eijuusha Shoumeisho*) will be issued to foreign medium- to long-term residents or special permanent residents, respectively.

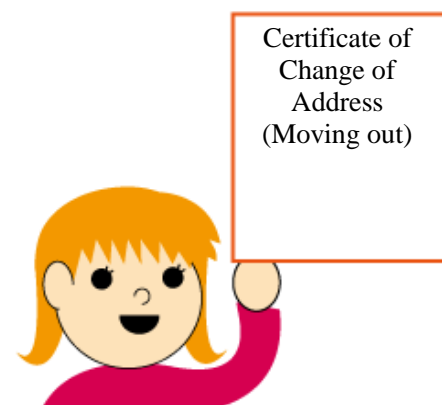
○The “residence ‘*zairyuu*’ card” will be issued by the Immigration Bureau successively to foreigners who have been granted permission to renew or change their status of residence. Permanent residents are required to apply for its issuance at the Immigration Bureau within 3 years from the date the change to this system comes into effect.



○The “special permanent resident certificate” will be issued at City Hall as is the case of the current certificate for applicable persons, at present. After the change to the new system comes into effect, although it is not necessary to switch immediately to the “special permanent resident certificate,” it is necessary for applicable persons to perform formalities for switching to the “special permanent resident certificate” at City Hall within the next period of application for confirmation (change-over) of the Certificate of Alien Registration now in possession.

■ **It will become necessary for foreign residents to submit Notification of Moving Out “*Tenshutsu Todoke*”**

Under the Alien Registration System, in case of moving to another municipality, application for change of address was necessary at the municipal office of the municipality one was moving into, while this procedure was not necessary at the corresponding office of the municipality one was moving out of. However, after this law comes into effect, foreign residents will be required, as it is with Japanese, to notify the municipal office from one is moving out of such intention and receive the issuance of a certificate of moving out of address from this office, and then notify the municipal office of the municipality which one is moving into of such intention, as well.



■ Persons subject to production of residence certificates “*juuminhyou*”

Persons subject to the aforementioned are foreign nationals residing legally in Japan with status to stay for over 3 months and who have an address. (This excludes persons with status of “temporary visitor,” etc. such as for sightseeing, etc.)

- Medium- to long-term residents “*Chuuchouki Zairyuusha*” (Persons subject to issuance of residence “*zairyuu*” card)

Foreigners with status of residing in Japan (excluding persons granted status to stay for no more than 3 months or persons granted the status of “temporary visitor (*tanki taizai*),” “diplomat (*gaikou*),” “official (*kouyou*),” or equivalent to the three statuses abovementioned).

- Special permanent residents “*Tokubetsu Eijuusha*”

Persons qualifying as special permanent residents in accordance with the Special Act on Immigration Control.

- Persons granted landing permission for temporary refuge “*Ichijihigo kyokasha*” or persons granted permission for provisional stay “*Karitaizai kyokasha*”

In accordance with provisions of the Immigration Control Act, in case foreign nationals aboard a vessel or aircraft who, deemed to fall under the conditions of possibly being a refugee, etc., are granted landing permission for temporary refuge (persons permitted temporary refuge) and foreign nationals who, having resided illegally apply for recognition as refugee and meeting specific conditions, are granted permission to stay provisionally (persons permitted provisional stay).

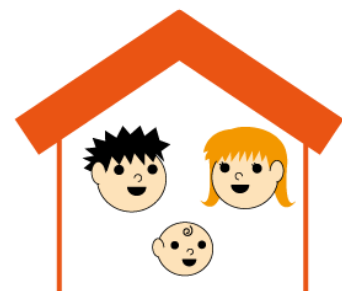
- Foreign nationals in Japan through birth or who have renounced Japanese nationality and continuing to stay (‘Persons continuing to stay’ referred to as “*Keika taizaisha*”)

Foreign nationals in Japan through birth or who have renounced Japanese nationality who are to stay in Japan may, by provisions of the Immigration Control Act, continue to stay in Japan without acquiring a status of residence for a period not exceeding 60 days, on and after the date of their renouncement of Japanese nationality, birth, or other cause.

※ Even in case of having performed alien registration, persons who have “temporary visitor” status or who when the law comes into effect have no status of residence cannot have residence certificates produced for them. If this document is necessary, such persons need to perform the specified formalities as soon as possible.

■ Request for accurate alien registration

The residence certificate ‘*juuminhyou*’ is produced on the basis of alien registration information. In case of having moved to another



address but City Hall not having been notified of it, such persons' address cannot be confirmed and consequently the making of residence certificate may be infeasible. To facilitate smooth transition to the new system, please make sure to perform accurate alien registration.

For further information, refer to the following websites of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications and the Ministry of Justice.

- The Ministry of Justice website entitled: “Changes to the Immigration Control Act!” (in English)
http://www.immi-moj.go.jp/english/newimmiact/newimmiact_english.html
- The Ministry of Justice website entitled: “Start of a new residency management system!” (in English, with links to versions in Japanese, Chinese (‘simplified’ and ‘traditional’), Korean, Spanish, and Portuguese)
http://www.immi-moj.go.jp/newimmiact_1/en/index.html
- The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications website entitled: “Concerning the Basic Resident Registration System in relation to foreign residents” (in Japanese, with links to versions in English and Korean)
http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/jichi_gyousei/c-gyousei/zairyu.html
- The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications website entitled “Changes to the Basic Resident Registration Law ~Foreign residents will be subject to the Basic Resident Registration Law ~ (in English)
http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/jichi_gyousei/c-gyousei/zairyu_english.html