

Important Guidance on Japan's Border Control Measures Related to COVID-19 For Entrants from the United States

Embassy of Japan, Washington, D.C.

The Government of Japan (GOJ) has implemented multi-layer border control measures in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Due to the complexity of these measures, the Embassy has created this guide to highlight the essential points which are applicable to the majority of foreign nationals currently living/staying in the United States (U.S.). For more information on how Japan's border control measures apply to countries and regions outside of the U.S., please refer to the relevant websites by the related Ministries and Agencies of Japan.

1. Denial of Permission to Land (enter)

Until further notice, the GOJ will deny permission to land in Japan to **foreign nationals** in the categories listed below, as they fall under *Article 5, paragraph (1), item (xiv) of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act*, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

- (1) **Foreign nationals who have been physically present in the U.S. in the 14 days prior to their arrival to Japan.**
 - 128 countries and regions other than the U.S. that the GOJ has applied entrance restrictions to can be found here: https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page4e_001053.html
- (2) Foreign nationals who hold a Chinese passport issued in the Hubei Province/the Zhejiang Province.
- (3) Foreigners who were on the cruise ship *Westerdam*, which departed from Hong Kong.

Exceptional circumstances:

1) Re-entry:

- Foreign nationals with the status of residence of “Permanent Resident,” “Spouse or Child of Japanese National,” “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident” or “Long Term Resident,” (including a spouse or a child of a Japanese national who does not have these statuses of residence) who departed from Japan to the U.S. with Re-entry Permission/special re-entry permission on or before April 2, 2020, will be treated, in principle, as persons in the special circumstances category (This, however, is not applicable to foreign nationals who depart from Japan on or after April 3). Exceptional circumstances will apply to anyone with the “Special Permanent Resident” status regardless of their departure date from Japan.
- In addition to the exceptional circumstances mentioned above, foreign nationals in situations similar to the examples indicated in the link below may also be granted re-entry to Japan. If you think you are eligible for re-entry, please contact *the Immigration Service Agency* directly.
 - Examples of exceptional circumstances:
<http://www.moj.go.jp/content/001321982.pdf>
 - Adjudication Division, Immigration Department, Immigration Services Agency:
Tel: (81)-3-3580-4111 (Ext. No. 2796)

2) Other:

In general, any foreign nationals who have physically been in the U.S. in the 14 days prior to their arrival to Japan will be denied permission to land in Japan even if they possess a valid entry visa of Japan (issued on or before April 2, 2020) or intend to enter Japan under the Visa Waiver Agreement. Please

contact the Embassy (only for D.C., MD, or VA residents), if you think you are under exceptional circumstances (please see above for examples) **AND** plan to visit Japan with a valid entry visa of Japan issued on or before April 2, 2020 or under the Visa Waiver Agreement.

- Further information about denial of permission to land can be found here:
http://www.moj.go.jp/EN/nyuukokukanri/kouhou/m_nyuukokukanri01_00003.html

2. Visa Restrictions

Based on the "[Criteria of Visa Issuance](#)," visa applications of those who fall under any of the categories described under the section labeled "1. Denial of Permission to Land" will not be accepted unless there are exceptional circumstances.

- Further information can be found here:
https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page4e_001053.html

3. Quarantine Measures after Entry into Japan

- (1) All people from the U.S. (including Japanese nationals and those foreign nationals permitted to land in Japan as a result of their exceptional circumstances) will be required to take PCR tests in Japan. It may take up to 2 days to get your results and you must, in principle, stay at a designated location while you wait for the results.
 - (2) They will also be required to self-quarantine at their home/place of accommodation for 14 days after entering Japan. In addition, those people will be required to refrain from using public transportation (including trains, buses, taxis, or domestic flights) in Japan for 14 days after their arrival. You should secure accommodations where you can stay for 14 days and private transportation from the airport to your destination. These restrictions will be in effect until July 31, 2020.
- Further information including applicable countries and regions other than the U.S. can be found here:
https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou_iryuu/covid19_qa_kanrenkigyuu_00003.html
 - For questions regarding the quarantine measures, please contact *the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare* directly: Tel: (81)-3-3595-2176