

For Those Planning to Apply for a Change of Status from “Student” to a Work Visa

If you wish to start working from April 1, 2026, please submit your application between December 1, 2025, and the end of January 2026.



If any documents are missing or if there are matters that need to be confirmed during the review process, the result may not be available by your desired date.

Please pay attention to the following points when submitting your application.

Please make sure that all required documents are complete.

If any documents are missing, the result may be delayed.

*Check the required documents here:

<https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/applications/status/index.html>

→ Select the status of residence you wish to change to.

Important Notes for Application

Starting December 1, 2025 – Omission of Certain Documents

For applications to change your status of residence from “Student” to “Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services” or “Research,” in addition to the existing omission based on the category of your current institution, omission of certain documents will also be allowed if you meet any of the following conditions (same documents as Category 2 can be omitted):

Please note: This does not apply to employment under a dispatch arrangement.

- 1. Graduates (or expected graduates) of a Japanese university (including graduate schools and junior colleges).**
- Graduates of an overseas prestigious university ranked within the top 300 in at least two of the three major global university rankings.
- Applicants who will work at an institution that currently employs a foreign national who has changed their status from “Student” to a work visa and has renewed their period of stay at least once while employed there.

For details, visit:

https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/10_00240.html