

Q&A on the New Border Measures (As of September 14)

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(Overview of the Border Measures)

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|---|
| 1 Please clarify an overview of the Current Border Measures (Japanese quarantine Measures). |
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(Answer)

1 Current Japanese Quarantine Measures differ depending on the grouping of the countries/regions of your stay within 14 days before arrival in Japan and whether or not you have a valid COVID-19 vaccination certificate of three doses of vaccines that have been verified as valid by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW), and specified in attachment 2 in the New Broader Measures (28) (hereafter, it is referred to as “valid vaccination certificate”).

2 All cross-border travelers and returnees to Japan were required to submit a certificate of Testing for COVID-19 proving negative conducted within 72 hours before departure (negative certificate) until September 6, but from September 7, 2022 submission of the negative certificate is no longer required in case of obtaining a valid vaccination certificate for all cross-border travelers and returnees. If you do not have a valid vaccination certificate, you will still be required to submit a negative certificate.

※The above will apply to cross-border travelers and returnees who board an aircraft with scheduled time of arrival in Japan is after 0:00 JST on September 7, 2022.

- 3 For all cross-border travelers and returnees to Japan:
- Duration of isolation at home or accommodations after entering Japan, completing health follow up during the quarantine period, and avoiding the use of public transportation (hereinafter referred to as “home quarantine”) is five days,
 - Depending on which country/region you stayed in before entering Japan (its designation) and whether you obtain a valid vaccination certificate,

The need for on-arrival COVID-19 test, quarantine period after entry, and place for quarantine will be changed as follows:

Cross-border travelers and returnees to Japan from countries/regions in Group “Blue” and cross-border travelers and returnees to Japan from countries/regions in Group “Yellow” who obtain valid vaccination certificates will not be subject to tests at airport quarantines and will have no quarantine periods after arrival (They can also use public transportation after arriving in Japan.)

Cross-border travelers and returnees to Japan from countries/regions in Group “Yellow” who do not obtain valid vaccination certificates and cross-border travelers

and returnees to Japan from countries/regions in Group “Red” who obtain valid vaccination certificates must take an on-arrival test and undergo home quarantine.

Cross-border travelers and returnees to Japan from countries/regions in Group “Red” who do not obtain valid vaccination certificates must take an on-arrival test and undergo quarantine at a specific facility designated by the Chief of the Quarantine Station.

Country of your stay before arrival	Have a valid vaccine certificate	Negative certificate (Pre-departure test)	On-arrival test	Quarantine period after entry	
Red	No	Required	Required	“3-day quarantine at a specific facility designated by the Chief of the Quarantine Station (+ negative self-COVID-19 test result (PCR test) at the facility)”	
	Yes	Not required		“3-day quarantine at home/accommodations + a negative result of a voluntary test” (5-day quarantine without test)	
Yellow	No	Required		-	No quarantine required
	Yes	Not required			
Blue	No	Required			
	Yes	Not required			

- * Notwithstanding the above measures, if there are directions from a quarantine station about conducting on-arrival test, and quarantine at home/accommodations, you must follow them.
- * If you become positive by on arrival test for COVID-19, you must recuperate at a specific facility designated by the quarantine station.
- * If you become COVID-19 positive, or symptomatic, you will not be eligible for a shortened quarantine period.
- * Cross-border travelers and returnees to Japan are requested to monitor their health statuses such as daily temperature check for 7 days after entering Japan.
- * The use of public transportation to their own residence or accommodations after the entry into Japan will be allowed. However, it should be completed within 24 hours from on-arrival test with the shortest path to their own residence or accommodations as the destination.

4 Furthermore, please be aware that the above Measures may change suddenly depending on the state of infections inside and outside Japan in the future.

(Overview of the Border Measures)

2 Does the calculation of the nth day before or after arrival include the arrival date?

(Answer)

It does not include the arrival date. The arrival date is day 0. For example, if you enter Japan on June 5, the third day prior to your arrival date would be June 2. Conversely, if you enter Japan on June 5, the third day after your arrival date would be June 8.

(Overview of the Border Measures)

3 How do I handle a change in the category of the countries/regions if the category of a country I stayed in changes within 14 days before my arrival date?

(Answer)

1 This is determined depending on the status of the category of cross-border traveler and returnee to Japan's country of departure at (said traveler or returnee's) time of entry to Japan.

2 If a cross-border traveler or returnee to Japan has stayed in Country A within 14 days before the traveler or returnee's arrival date,

For example,

- If the designation of Country A changes from a Group "Yellow" country/region to a Group "Blue" country/region within nine days before the arrival date,
- Country A, the cross-border traveler or returnee to Japan's country of departure (in which the traveler or returnee stayed within 14 days before the arrival date), is determined to be a Group "Blue" country/region.

In this case, there is no on-arrival test because the country of departure is a Group "Blue" country/region.

3 Conversely,

For example,

- If the category of Country A changes from a Group "Blue" country/region to a Group "Yellow" country/region within nine days before the arrival date,
- Country A, the cross-border traveler or returnee to Japan's country of departure (in

which the traveler or returnee stayed within 14 days before the arrival date), is determined to be a Group “Yellow” country/region.

4 As above, the need for an on-arrival test, quarantine periods and accommodations for quarantine of cross-border travelers and returnees to Japan may be affected by a country/region’s grouping (“Red,” “Yellow,” and “Blue” categories). Please collect the most recent information on the “countries/regions categories based on the New Border Measures (28) 1” and respond accordingly.

(3. [Quarantine measures] on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)’ “Border measures to prevent the spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19)” web page.)

https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/ca/fna/page4_005130.html

(MHLW’s web page)

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/0000121431_00209.html

(Overview of the Border Measures)

4 Where can I find the latest information and related materials on the Border Measures?

(Answer)

Related information and documentation are posted on web pages, the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), the MOFA, and the MHLW.

*MHLW: Border Measures

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/0000121431_00209.html

*MOFA: Measures for Resuming Cross-Border Travel

https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/ca/cp/page22_003380.html

(Overview of the Border Measures)

5 What precautions should I take when entering and returning to Japan from overseas?

(Answer)

- 1 Please check your own temperature before departure, and refrain from traveling if you have a fever or feel unwell.
- 2 Please take the countermeasures to prevent the spread of the infection such as wearing a mask, sanitizing your hands, avoiding contact with unspecified people, and avoiding three Cs (closed spaces, crowded places, close-contact settings) when entering Japan.

- 3 Please be sure to use the Fast Track (※1) and Visit Japan Web (※2) to ensure smooth quarantine procedures to Japan.
(※1) Fast Track : Pre-registration via MySOS app or MySOS Web to handle some quarantine procedures before entry into Japan from overseas.
(※2) Visit Japan Web : A web service provided by Digital Agency that visitors (including Japanese and the foreigners who have reentry permits) can use for quarantine, immigration and customs procedures in order to enter Japan.
- 4 Based on the risks, quarantine measures are taken at the airport upon arrival in Japan, such as conducting a test for COVID-19 and requesting home quarantine, according to the countries/regions where you have stayed before your arrival, as per question 1, and monitoring temperature for all entrants and conducting tests for COVID-19 for symptomatic entrants. Those who are not feeling well upon arrival are requested to report themselves to a quarantine officer.
- 5 Any costs and burdens incurred when you cannot use the public transportation arranged due to quarantine procedures after arrival will be the responsibility of the passenger. We kindly ask for your understanding of the quarantine procedures, and please plan well in advance when arranging connecting flights such as staying overnight near the airport, if you arrive later in the evening.

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

1 What are the conditions for a vaccination certificate to be accepted as valid?
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(Answer)

1 Vaccination certificates accepted as valid need to meet the conditions of (1) through (3).

(1) They must be a vaccination certificate issued by a public institution, such as a national government of a country/region.

(2) They must indicate a name, a date of birth, the name of the vaccine or manufacturer, the dates of inoculation, and the number of vaccinations (in Japanese or English).

(3) The certificate must clearly show that you have received 3 doses of any of the following vaccines (vaccine name/major manufacturer) :

- COMIRNATY intramuscular injection/Pfizer
- Spikevax intramuscular injection /Moderna
- Vaxzevria intramuscular injection/AstraZeneca
- JCOVDEN intramuscular injection/Janssen
- COVAXIN/Bharat Biotech
- Nuvaxovid intramuscular injection/Novavax

* For the JCOVDEN intramuscular injection/Janssen, only in case of primary series,one dose is considered equivalent to two doses.

* Doses will also be considered valid even if each dose are not the same vaccine.

* COMIRNATY manufactured by Fosun Pharma / BioNTech and Covishield / COVOVAX manufactured by the Serum Institute of India are treated as identical to COMIRNATY, intramuscular injection / Pfizer and Vaxzevria, Intramuscular Injection / AstraZeneca, Nuvaxovid, intramuscular injection / Novavax respectively.

2 Please check the website below for details.

(MHLW: Vaccine Certificate for Quarantine)

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/covid-19/border_vaccine.html

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

2 My date of birth is not included on my country's vaccination certificate. However, is it still a valid vaccination certificate if it has my passport or ID number?

(Answer)

It will be recognized as a valid vaccination certificate if a passport or ID number is detailed instead of a date of birth and if a date of birth can be verified through the passport or ID card in your possession.

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

3 In my country, a vaccine other than Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca, Janssen, Bharat Biotech or Novavax is approved for the first and second doses. In this situation, will my vaccination certificate be accepted as valid even if I took such a vaccine?

(Answer)

- 1 It will not be accepted. At present, the only vaccines accepted as valid are Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca, Janssen, Bharat Biotech and Novavax.
- 2 The vaccines manufactured under license of technologies from the above makers such as COMIRNATY manufactured by Fosun Pharma/BioNTech, as well as Covishield and COVOVAX manufactured by the Serum Institute of India are also valid.
- 3 For example, if the product name of vaccine is "COMIRNATY intramuscular injection", "Spikevax Intramuscular Injection", "Vaxzevria Intramuscular Injection", "JCOVDEN intramuscular injection", "COVAXIN", "Nuvaxovid Intramuscular Injection", "Covishield", or "COVOVAX", it is valid even if the name of maker other than the "major manufacture" exemplified in Question 1 is recorded on the vaccination certificate. However, vaccination certificate with product names other than those listed above will not be accepted as valid.

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

4 How is the number of doses, etc. treated for the Janssen vaccine?

(Answer)

For JCOVDEN intramuscular injection, only in case of primary series, one dose is considered equivalent to two.

✘For example, if inoculated with Pfizer for the first dose and with Janssen for the second dose, the primary series will be considered completed, but a booster shot (third dose) will not be considered completed.

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

5 Is a certificate of vaccine manufactured by the companies that receive license from manufacturers of valid vaccine accepted as valid, even if the names of vaccine and manufacturer are different from those listed in Question 1?

(Answer)

1 If the product name of vaccine is “COMIRNATY intramuscular injection”, “Spikevax Intramuscular Injection”, “Vaxzevria Intramuscular Injection”, “JCOVDEN intramuscular injection”, “COVAXIN”, “Nuvaxovid Intramuscular Injection”, “Covishield”, or “COVOVAX”, the vaccination certificate is valid even if the name of manufacturer other than the “major manufacturers” exemplified in Question 1 is recorded on the certificate.

2 On the other hand, vaccination certificate with the product name other than those listed above will not be accepted as valid.

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

6 Do all my doses have to be the same vaccine type?

(Answer)

If the total number of vaccinations is 3 or more with any of the vaccines manufactured by Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca, Janssen, Bharat Biotech or Novavax, it will also be considered valid even if each dose are not the same vaccine .

* For the JCOVDEN intramuscular Injection/Janssen, only in case of primary series, one dose is considered equivalent to two doses.

* COMIRNATY manufactured by Fosun Pharma / BioNTech and Covishield / COVOVAX

manufactured by the Serum Institute of India are treated as identical to COMIRNATY, Intramuscular injection / Pfizer and Vaxzevria, Intramuscular injection / AstraZeneca, Nuvaxovid, Intramuscular injection / Novavax respectively.

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

7 Will I be accepted as the holder of valid vaccination certificates if I took my three doses in different countries and have the vaccination certificates from these countries?

(Answer)

If each vaccination certificate meets the required conditions and all certificates are presented at quarantine, they will be accepted as valid vaccination certificates.

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

8 What should I do if there are no details for my first and second doses on my vaccination certificate?

(Answer)

1 Vaccination certificate

- must contain inoculation information indicating the vaccine type, the date of inoculation, and that it is the third dose (for the Janssen, only in case of primary series, one dose is considered equivalent to two. Hereafter the same.) (For example, 3/3(if Janssen's vaccine has been inoculated, 2/2)),
- and separately, for Fast Track registration and quarantine checks, etc., if it can be confirmed that the vaccine that you received for your first or second dose was Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca, Janssen, Bharat Biotech or Novavax, it will be recognized as valid.

2 Furthermore, any combinations, including a documentation of recovery will not be accepted.

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

9 What should I do if there is only recent inoculation information on my vaccination certificate and the applicable inoculation does not indicate that it is my third dose?

(Answer)

For example, a combination of your vaccination certificate with other certificate, such as a record of vaccine inoculation or certificate issued when you received your second dose, etc. can verify that you received your third dose. In that case, you will be recognized as the holder of valid vaccination certificate.

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

10 Is there a period of validity for the third dose (for my vaccination certificate to be accepted)?

(Answer)

At present, there is no period of validity for the third dose.

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

10-1 In my country, the vaccination certificate has an expiration date. Will an expired vaccination certificate be accepted as a valid certificate?

(Answer)

If the certificates can verify that you have received third dose and meet other requirements, it will be accepted as valid.

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

11 What should I do if my country's vaccination certificate is not written in English?

(Answer)

Translate your vaccination certificate in advance (into Japanese or English) and present the translation along with your vaccination certificate at quarantine (You may create the translation yourself.).

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

12 Are electronically issued vaccination certificates accepted? Is it acceptable if I present a two-dimensional code?

(Answer)

For electronically issued vaccination certificates, the format does not matter, such as an App, PDF, image and picture. If the details of your vaccination certificate can be confirmed and it meets the conditions, it will be treated as a valid vaccination certificate. Also, when you use Fast Track, if there are two-dimensional codes of EUDCCs, ICAO-VDS, or SMART Health Cards, they can be read at quarantine.

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

12-1 Are copies of vaccination certificates also accepted in behalf of originals?

(Answer)

As long as the details can be confirmed from the copy of a vaccination certificate at the Quarantine Station, it does not matter if it is a copy of the original.

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

13 For vaccination certificates issued in Japan, do you consider certificates other than the Vaccination Certificate of COVID-19, Certificate of vaccination for COVID-19, or Record of vaccination for COVID-19 valid?

(Answer)

- 1 The following vaccination certificates are accepted as valid.
 - National or local government-issued Vaccination Certificate of COVID-19 (COVID-19 vaccination certificate for overseas travel)
 - Local government-issued Certificate of vaccination for COVID-19
 - Record of vaccination for COVID-19 issued by a medical facility during a workplace inoculation.

- 2 In addition to the above, vaccination certificates issued (by the MOFA) to Japanese nationals living abroad who are returning home temporarily, vaccination certificates issued (by the MHLW) to participants of domestic clinical trials are also accepted.

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

13-1 Is it allowed to use the Japanese government's official application, "COVID-19 Vaccination Certificate Application" ?

(Answer)

1 Vaccination certificate issued by the "COVID-19 Vaccination Certificate Application" officially provided by the Japanese government (Digital Agency) will be treated as valid certificate as long as it proves three doses or more.

2 When you use Fast Track, please upload an image created using the function "Save this certificate as an image" or "Save 2D code as an image" in VDS-NC format (*) in the COVID-19 Vaccination Certificate Application or screenshot that includes your name, date of birth, and the number of doses (3 or more).

*Please use the "Save 2D code as image" function after confirming that "VDS-NC" is selected under the 2D code display in the app ("VDS-NC is selected by default). In the SHC format, the 2D code does not contain the count information.

※ Please check the following website of the Digital Agency for how to use the "COVID-19 Vaccination Certificate Application".

<https://www.digital.go.jp/policies/vaccinecert/>

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

14 Are vaccination certificates issued by private organizations acceptable?

(Answer)

They are not acceptable. It must be a vaccination certificate issued by a public institution, such as a national government.

(COVID-19 vaccination certificate)

15 Do children also need a COVID-19 vaccination certificate?

(Answer)

1 Children who obtain valid vaccination certificates are not required to obtain a negative certificate of testing for COVID-19 conducted within 72 hours before departure.

2 For children under the age of 18 without a valid vaccination certificate, if they are accompanied by a guardian with a valid vaccination certificate and who will supervise the children, they will be treated as holders of valid vaccination certificates, and

submission of the negative certificates is exempted the same as the guardian as an exception.

*If children under the age of 18 without vaccination certificates enter Japan by themselves (without being accompanied by a guardian with a valid vaccination certificate), they are not eligible for the above exception.

(Certificate of Testing for COVID-19 (proving negative) within 72 hours prior to departure)

1 Is a Certificate of Testing for COVID-19 proving negative required to enter Japan?

(Answer)

- 1 Both Japanese and foreigners who obtain valid vaccination certificates will not be required to obtain certificate of testing for COVID-19 (proving negative) within 72 hours prior to departure.
- 2 Both Japanese and foreigners who do not obtain valid vaccination certificates will be required to obtain certificate of testing for COVID-19 (proving negative) within 72 hours prior to departure.
- 3 If you cannot submit any of the certificates, you will not be permitted to land in Japan.

(Certificate of Testing for COVID-19 (proving negative) within 72 hours prior to departure)

1-1 If children do not hold a valid vaccination certificate, are children also required a COVID-19 negative certificate?

(Answer)

1 For children under the age of 18 without holding a valid vaccination certificate, if they are accompanied by a guardian with a valid vaccination certificate and who will supervise the children, they will be treated as holders of valid vaccination certificates. Therefore the submission of the negative certificates is exempted the same as the guardian as an exception.

*If children under the age of 18 without holding vaccination certificates enter Japan alone (without being accompanied by a guardian with a valid vaccination certificate), they are not eligible for the above exception.

2 In case the accompanying guardian does not hold a valid vaccination certificate and enters Japan with a negative certificate, preschool-aged children (generally under the age of 6) are not required a negative certificate.

(Certificate of Testing for COVID-19 (proving negative) within 72 hours prior to departure)

2 Is it allowed to use formats other than the template provided by the MHLW?

(Answer)

- 1 Any certificate made without using the template posted on the MHLW website is valid as long as it satisfies all of the items including a valid specimen and testing method. When using such optional format, it may take time to check the certificates during boarding procedure at a departure place and landing procedures in Japan, so we strongly encourage to use the “Fast Track” method of pre-screening when entering or returning to the country.

- 2 Please refer to the link below for details, including the reference format indicated by the MHLW.

(MHLW: **Border Measures**: Certificate of Testing for COVID-19 Prior to Departing)

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/0000121431_00248.html

(On-arrival COVID-19 test and the quarantine period after entry into Japan)

1 Please clarify the on-arrival test and the quarantine period after entry into Japan?

(Answer)

For all cross-border travelers and returnees to Japan:

- Duration of isolation at home or accommodations after entering Japan, completing health follow up during the quarantine period, and avoiding the use of public transportation (hereinafter referred to as “home quarantine”) is five days,
- Depending on where you have stayed before your arrival and whether or not you have a valid vaccination certificate that meets the requirements,

The need for on-arrival COVID-19 test, quarantine period after entry, and accommodations for quarantine will be changed as follows:

Country of your stay before arrival	Have a valid vaccine certificate	Negative certificate (Pre-departure test)	On-arrival test	Quarantine period after entry
Red	No	Required	Required	“3-day quarantine at a specific facility designated by the Chief of the Quarantine Station (+ negative self-COVID-19 test result (PCR test) at the facility)”
	Yes	Not required		“3-day quarantine at home/accommodations + a negative result of a voluntary test” (5-day quarantine without test)
Yellow	No	Required	-	No quarantine required
	Yes	Not required		
Blue	No	Required	-	No quarantine required
	Yes	Not required		

- * Notwithstanding the above measures, if there are directions from a quarantine station about conducting on-arrival test, and quarantine at home/accommodations, you must follow them.
- * If you become positive by on arrival test for COVID-19, you must recuperate at a specific facility designated by the quarantine station.
- * If you become COVID-19 positive, or symptomatic, you will not be eligible for a shortened quarantine period.

- * Cross-border travelers and returnees to Japan are requested to monitor their health statuses such as daily temperature check for 7 days after entering Japan.
- * The use of public transportation to their own residence or accommodations after the entry into Japan will be allowed. However, it should be completed within 24 hours from on-arrival test with the shortest path to their own residence or accommodations as the destination.

(On-arrival COVID-19 test and the quarantine period after entry into Japan)

2 Are quarantine periods for cross-border travelers and returnees to Japan different for Japanese and foreign nationals?

(Answer)

Quarantine periods do not differ for Japanese and foreign nationals who enter Japan.

(On-arrival COVID-19 test and the quarantine period after entry into Japan)

3 How should I administer the voluntary-test in order to shorten the quarantine period while home quarantine?

(Answer)

- 1 From September 14, 2022, qualitative antigen test kits (for two times) will be distributed at the quarantine station at the arrival airport to those entering and returning to Japan who are required to stay at home, etc. As for the voluntary-test during home quarantine, please take the qualitative antigen test kits distributed at the airport quarantine on the second day and third day after arrival and, if the result of both tests are negative, submit those negative results through MySOS to the Health Monitoring Center for Overseas Entrants.
- 2 As for the voluntary-test, either a PCR test or a quantitative antigen test is also available. In that case, please take a test on the third day or later at a recognized testing organization (Please refer to the link below), and, if the result is negative, submit it through MySOS to the Health Monitoring Center for Overseas Entrants.
<https://www.c19.mhlw.go.jp/search/>
- 3 In any case, quarantine will no longer be required from the fourth day at earliest onward if you receive the “notice of the completion of quarantine” from the Center (the use of public transportation will be allowed once quarantine is no longer required).
- 4 Please refer to the link below for details.

<https://www.hco.mhlw.go.jp/manual/jp.php>

(On-arrival COVID-19 test and the quarantine period after entry into Japan)

4 If I chose to take a PCR test or a quantitative antigen test, is the test result taken at a testing organization NOT listed on the MHLW's website considered valid?

(Answer)

The test result of a PCR test or a quantitative antigen test taken at a testing organization other than those in question 3 that are posted on the MHLW's web page are not allowed as it cannot be confirmed whether they were taken at an actual medical institution or clinical laboratory.

(On-arrival COVID-19 test and the quarantine period after entry into Japan)

5 Can I go out to receive a COVID-19 test during my period of home quarantine?

(Answer)

- 1 During the home quarantine period, you must refrain from going on trips that are non-essential. Nonetheless, going to a testing organization to receive a COVID-19 test to end your period of home quarantine does not fall under the category of not essential. However, please do not use public transportation used by the general population. Instead, use your own vehicle to get tested.
- 2 Furthermore, some testing organizations can hold COVID-19 tests by mailing test specimens. Therefore, please be sure to inquire with the relevant testing organization in advance by selecting "by mail" from the search form on the link below (please be aware that sample vials need to be sent in advance).

<https://www.c19.mhlw.go.jp/search/>

(On-arrival COVID-19 test and the quarantine period after entry into Japan)

6 Am I allowed to end my quarantine before I am contacted by the Health Monitoring Center for Overseas Entrants regarding my voluntary-test while home quarantine?

(Answer)

No. If you end your home quarantine before confirmation from the Center arrives, you

will violate your Written Pledge.

(On-arrival COVID-19 test and the quarantine period after entry into Japan)

7 What should I do if my COVID-19 test results come back COVID-19 positive?

(Answer)

- 1 If a PCR test or a quantitative antigen test not administered by a physician is taken at a private testing organization and its results come back positive, please take a medical examination at a medical facility affiliated with the testing organization.

- 2 If the affiliated medical organization is in a remote area and it is challenging to utilize, or if the test result from the qualitative antigen test kit is positive, the test recipient is requested to either contact a nearby medical facility or their primary physician in advance to confirm the possibility of consulting with them or consult with the local health consultation center.

(On-arrival COVID-19 test and the quarantine period after entry into Japan)

8 In case of a PCR test or a quantitative antigen test, when sending specimens to a testing organization by mail, is it allowed to use specimens taken before the third day of my quarantine?

(Answer)

The COVID-19 test must be done with specimens from the third day of your quarantine or later. Your test results will not be valid even if your COVID-19 test date is on the third day of your quarantine or later if your specimens are from the second day of the quarantine or earlier.

(On-arrival COVID-19 test and the quarantine period after entry into Japan)

9 During my quarantine period after entry into Japan, there was a change in the category of the countries/regions I stayed in before entering Japan, how will it impact on my quarantine period?

(Answer)

If there is a change in the grouping of the countries or regions of your stay before arrival after entering Japan, it will be applied even if you have already entered Japan.

For example, if the countries and regions where you had stayed change from a Group “Yellow” countries/regions to a group “Blue” countries/regions during the quarantine

period after entering Japan, the quarantine period will end at the time of change.

(Use of public transportation)

- | |
|--|
| <p>1 After entry into Japan, is it acceptable to use public transportation to travel to my accommodations for quarantine, such as my home?</p> |
|--|

(Answer)

- 1 Cross-border travelers and returnees to Japan from countries/regions in Group “Red” who obtain valid vaccination certificates and cross-border travelers and returnees to Japan from countries/regions in Group “Yellow” who do not obtain valid vaccination certificates must take an on-arrival test and undergo home quarantine.
- However, when they travel from an airport to home/accommodation for home quarantine, on the shortest route necessary,
 - within 24 hours after their COVID-19 test (specifically, specimen collection) at an airport quarantine station, the use of public transportation is allowed
- (Only applicable to the above, even during the period of home quarantine).
- 2 When using public transportation, please make every effort to prevent infection, including wearing a mask, sanitizing your hands, and avoiding the three C’s (closed spaces, crowded places, and close-contact settings).

(Use of public transportation)

- | |
|--|
| <p>2 As for the use of public transportation during my quarantine period, is it acceptable to use public transportation for travel other than from the airport to my accommodations for quarantine, such as my home?</p> |
|--|

(Answer)

It is not acceptable. The use of public transportation during your quarantine period is only acceptable from your airport to your accommodation for home quarantine within 24 hours of your COVID-19 test at the airport. Otherwise, the use of public transportation during this quarantine period will violate the Written Pledge.

(New entry of foreign nationals into Japan)

1 In what cases is the new entry of foreign nationals into Japan allowed?

(Answer)

1 These measures are applicable to

- (1) foreign nationals newly entering Japan for a short-term stay (three months or less) for purposes including business and employment.
- (2) foreign nationals newly entering Japan for a short-term stay for purposes including tourism (only when the travel agency, etc., is in charge of receiving organizations).
- (3) foreign nationals newly entering Japan for a long-term stay.

In either case, receiving organizations should be located in Japan.

2 It is necessary for the receiving organizations located in Japan to complete the prescribed application in the MHLW's Entrants, Returnees Follow-up System (ERFS) for foreign nationals newly entering Japan listed in (1), (2), or (3) above.

(New entry of foreign nationals into Japan)

1-1 In what cases is the new entry of foreign nationals into Japan for tourism purposes allowed?

(Answer)

Regarding new entry of foreign nationals into Japan for tourism purposes, it was limited to those from a Group "Blue" countries/regions and package tours with a tour conductor for which the travel agencies and travel service providers as receiving organizations. However from September 7, 2022, package tours without a tour conductor from all countries/regions will be accepted.

Please refer to the website of Japan Tourism Agency for more details.

Japan Tourism Agency website:

<https://www.mlit.go.jp/kankocho/en/shisaku/kokusai/traveltojapan.html>

(New entry of foreign nationals into Japan)

2 Is the entry for the purpose of “visiting relatives/friends/acquaintances” allowed as a the new entry of foreign nationals into Japan? If not, what kind of procedures should be taken?

(Answer)

1 Entry on a short-term stay to visit relatives or friends is outside the scope of this measure because there is no receiving organization. However, new entries into Japan may be allowed if their circumstances fall into the following types of exceptional circumstances.

- A foreign national traveling to Japan for the purpose of visiting relatives
- The following are examples of cases where relationship equivalent to a relative or necessity to visit Japan is recognized.

A foreign national who has relationship with a person residing in Japan equivalent to a relative as listed below.

- Betrothed
- Common-law marriage

A foreign national who could be could be recognized his/her necessity to visit Japan.

- A person who attends to wedding or funeral
- A person who visits a sick acquaintance.

2 A relative / acquaintance residing in Japan has to pledge to take quarantine measure as Inviting Person when applicants apply for visa at the Japanese embassy / consulate.

3 Apart from these measures, when circumstances with humanitarian consideration arises, the Government of Japan continues to examine the need for consideration on case-by-case basis and decide whether the entry of those with “special exceptional circumstances” is allowed.

4 Please refer to the following material posted on the websites of the Immigration Services Agency of Japan and MOFA for more details.

(Reference 1: material posted on the Immigration Services Agency of Japan website)

<https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/content/001347330.pdf>

(Reference 2: MOFA website)

https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/ca/fna/page22_003381.html#section5

(New entry of foreign nationals into Japan)

3 Regarding the new entry of foreign nationals, is there any restriction on countries/regions prior to the entry?

(Answer)

There is no restriction.

(New entry of foreign nationals into Japan)

4 What is the method of application for a foreign national to enter Japan? Is prior application from a receiving organization required?

(Answer)

The prior application of a receiving organization is required for foreign nationals who newly enter Japan. First, a receiving organization must apply in advance through the MHLW's ERFS, enter the required details, acquire a Certificate for Completion of Registration, and send the certificate to the foreign national scheduled to newly enter Japan. After doing so, the foreign national scheduled to newly enter Japan must apply with an overseas diplomatic mission of Japan with a Certificate for Completion of Registration and a visa application.

(New entry of foreign nationals into Japan)

4-1 Is prior application from a receiving organization required for re-entry into Japan of foreign nationals who have residence status?

(Answer)

It is not required. Prior application from a receiving organization is required for the new entry of a foreign national only.

(New entry of foreign nationals to Japan)

4-2 Is it possible for family members to accompany foreign nationals and to enter Japan with the New Measures under the supervision of a receiving organization?

(Answer)

1 It is possible for family members accompanying foreign nationals to enter Japan, if the receiving organization responsible for the family members together with the foreign nationals applies in advance for them or provides required supervision and support after their entry.

2 If foreign nationals are already residing in Japan and their family members wish to enter Japan at a later date, those family members are outside the scope of this measure because there is no receiving organization. For those who, however, apply to certain categories, they may be allowed to enter Japan as their situations are regarded as “special exceptional circumstances.” Please refer to Question 2 above for more details.

(New entry of foreign nationals into Japan)

5 What is a receiving organization?

(Answer)

- 1 A receiving organization means an enterprise or organization which employs or invites an cross-border traveler for business or entertainment purposes.
- 2 New entry of foreign nationals into Japan will be allowed under the supervision of receiving organizations which manage and support in providing information on necessary quarantine measures when entering Japan and securing accommodations for quarantine, confirming quarantines and health statuses.

(New entry of foreign nationals into Japan)

6 Are individual enterprises accepted as receiving organizations?

(Answer)

- 1 An individual enterprise that meets certain requirements is also accepted. However, they will not be accepted if the receiving organization and the cross-border traveler are the same entity because they cannot enact the required supervision.

2 Please refer to the link below for requirements.

<https://entry.hco.mhlw.go.jp/>

(New entry of foreign nationals into Japan)

7 What is required for receiving organizations?

(Answer)

- 1 Responsibilities of receiving organizations are as follows:
 - A receiving organization should log in to the ERFS and apply in advance online, enter information related to a foreign national’s new entry into Japan (including accommodations for quarantine), and agree to terms of the Written

Pledge before entry into Japan.

- It should input necessary information on the ERFS and download the Certificate for Completion of Registration (in PDF format) and send it to the cross-border traveler(s) to Japan.
- Regarding the visa application of a cross-border traveler, the overseas diplomatic missions of Japan confirm and screen the prior application for the Certificate for Completion of Registration and necessary documents of visa application, then issue a visa. If there is any discrepancy in the content of the Certificate for Completion of Registration (name, date of birth, passport number, nationality/region) and the visa application, there will be a need to register on the ERFS once again.
- Before their arrival in Japan, cross-border travelers and returnees should be notified of how to complete entry procedures as well as the Fast Track and the Visit Japan Web service
- Home quarantine is required after entry into Japan, the cross-border traveler gets check-up of necessary information such as health status and location data via MySOS. The receiving organization is supposed to take necessary management and support including confirming health status of the cross-border traveler at a place of self-quarantine.
- Regardless of whether there is a quarantine after entry to Japan, contact a medical facility if the cross-border traveler to Japan becomes symptomatic or becomes COVID-19 positive, and provide other required supervision and support, and please make every effort to prevent infection, including wearing a mask.

In addition, foreign nationals who are not covered by the Japanese public medical insurance may bear expensive medical costs depending on medical treatment. A receiving organization is required to make sure that their cross-border travellers to Japan prepare for unexpected burden of medical costs by taking out private medical insurances (including travel insurances which cover medical costs during their stay in Japan) in advance, so that they will not be in trouble with medial costs when they go to medical institutions in Japan, and to support them if necessary.

- 2 Please refer to the link below for the terms of your Written Pledge when you applied.
https://entry.hco.mhlw.go.jp/doc/commitment_form.pdf

(New entry of foreign nationals into Japan)

7-1 If foreign nationals travel from a country or region classified as Group “Blue,” do receiving organizations still need to agree to the terms of the Written Pledge?

(Answer)

Terms of the Written Pledge which the receiving organization is supposed to agree to include those regarding actions after entry into Japan such as making every effort to prevent infection, along with on-arrival COVID-19 testing and home quarantine. Thus, it is required to agree to the terms of the Written Pledge even if the cross-border traveler or returnee comes from countries/regions classified as “Blue”.

(New entry of foreign nationals into Japan)

8 Is it possible for foreign nationals newly entering Japan to apply individually?

(Answer)

It is not possible. It is not allowed both the receiving organization and the cross-border traveler are the same entity because they cannot enact the required supervision.

(New entry of foreign nationals into Japan)

8-1 If the new entry to Japan is for a technical intern trainee, which can be the receiving organization, the supervising organization or the enterprise that actually receives the technical intern trainee?

(Answer)

In principle, as with cases of other new entries of foreign nationals to Japan, the receiving organization becomes the enterprise that actually receives the technical intern trainee (implementing organization). However, under the technical intern training system, with a view to ensuring that technical intern trainees use Fast Track and the Visit Japan Web service, the supervising organization becomes the receiving organization (except for individual-enterprise-type technical intern training). Thus, the violation of the Written Pledge will also be responsible for the supervising organization in principle.

* For further details, please confirm the details of the notifications on the homepage of the Organization for Technical Intern Trainees.

(Request) Ensuring the further use of “Fast Track” and “Visit Japan Web Service” for pre-procedures before entering Japan

<https://www.otit.go.jp/>

(New entry of foreign nationals into Japan)

9 To where must prior applications for the new entry of foreign nationals into Japan be submitted?

(Answer)

A prior application must be made online through the ERFS. Moreover, it takes about one to two days to issue the ID and password required to log in to the ERFS. Please refer to the link below for details.

<https://entry.hco.mhlw.go.jp/>

(New entry of foreign nationals into Japan)

10 Can the paperwork related to an application be entrusted to a third party?

(Answer)

The receiving organization can entrust a third party to complete the application for a log-in ID of the ERFS with the Health Monitoring Center for Overseas Entrants and the prior application procedures before entry into Japan on its behalf (Please note that, however, having an entity that is not a certified administrative procedures specialist (corporation) complete application procedures on one's behalf for profit might violate the Certified Administrative Procedures Legal Specialist Act.). If having the process carried out by a third party, please submit a proxy statement including the following items for an ID application.

[Required items for a letter of attorney]

1. The date of delegation/consignment
2. Delegator/cosigner: Address, name or designation, name of the representative, phone number, and email address
3. Appointee/consignee (proxy): Address, name or designation, name of the representative, phone number, and email address
4. Details of delegation/consignment: Application procedures on the ERFS and the handling of personal information therein
5. Obligation of confidentiality: the proxy is not allowed to disclose any information learned through conducting application procedures to any other person.

(New entry of foreign nationals into Japan)

10-1 Is there an application period for a receiving organization to submit a prior application?

(Answer)

There is no application period. Meanwhile, please be aware of the time required for visa issuance and validity of the visa (See question 2 [Visa applications].)

(New entry of foreign nationals into Japan)

11 How long does it take for a Certificate for Completion of Registration to be issued after an application?

(Answer)

- 1 The Certificate for Completion of Registration will be issued online immediately by inputting and submitting information such as the name and contact information of the receiving organization, the name, date of birth, passport number, and other required information of the cross-border traveler into the ERFS, as well as complying with the terms of the Written Pledge for the receiving organization related to the new entry of foreign nationals into Japan.
- 2 It will take one to two days that the ID and password for logging into the ERFS be issued.

(Visa applications)

1 What document is required for a visa application with an overseas diplomatic mission of Japan?

(Answer)

1 It is required to show/submit a “Certificate for Completion of Registration” that is acquired by following a predetermined application through the ERFSS and a set of documents from either the following web page of the MOFA or the website of an overseas diplomatic mission of Japan.

<MOFA website>

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/toko/visa/index.html>

<List of embassies, consulates, or consular offices of Japan>

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/annai/zaigai/list/index.html>

2 Regarding validity of a certificate of eligibility for residence status, having the submission of the following document stating that the accepting organization, etc. “is able to continue accepting the foreign national with the same activity contents as were given at the time of the application for the certificate of eligibility” is considered a valid measure.

<https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/content/930005022.pdf>

(Visa applications)

2 How long should I expect to wait until my visa is issued?

(Answer)

The time required from visa application to visa issuance is 5 working days from the day following the date of receipt of the application, provided that there is no particular problem with the content of application. Meanwhile, please note that it may take longer than usual, if a large number of visa applications converge at a short-time period. Also, it may take lesser time depending on the Embassy/Consulate General and the purpose of visit.

If there is any problem with the content of the application, the Embassy/Consulate General transmits the application to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Tokyo for further examination. In such cases issuance of a visa may take more than a month.

(Visa applications)

3 Is it possible to apply for multiple-entry visas?

(Answer)

You may apply for a multiple-entry short term stay visa if you meet any of the following conditions.

- For nationals of visa exemption countries and regions (68 countries/regions) that are currently under temporary suspension. Please refer to the website of the MOFA.
https://www.mofa.go.jp/j_info/visit/visa/short/novisa.html
- Those whose purpose of travel falls under either (1) or (2)
 - (1) Foreign nationals newly entering Japan based on the “New Border Measures (29)” for a short-term stay (three months or less) for purposes including business and employment. (The receiving organization located in Japan needs to the prescribed application in the MHLW’s ERFS, and it is necessary to present a certificate of receipt stating that the item “your intention of applying for Multiple Entry Visa” is “desired” when applying for a via.)
 - (2) A person who is a spouse or child of a Japanese national for a short-term stay.

(Fast Track)

1 What is Fast Track?

(Answer)

- 1 Some quarantine procedures for entering Japan can be done before arrival in Japan through an internet called MySOS Web and smartphone App called MySOS.
- 2 With Fast Track, procedures can be completed before entry including answering to questionnaires and confirming documents such as vaccination certificates, or Certificate of Testing for COVID-19 (proving negative) within 72 hours prior to departure. Please refer to the link below for details.

<https://www.hco.mhlw.go.jp/fasttrack/>

(Fast Track)

2 Do I need to use Fast Track?

(Answer)

- 1 It is highly recommended to use the Fast Track in order to prevent congestion and delays at the airport upon arrival. With Fast Track, please complete some procedures prior to arrival including answers to questionnaires, confirmation of vaccination certificates or Certificate of Testing for COVID-19 (proving negative) within 72 hours prior to departure.
- 2 Please refer to the link below for details.

<https://www.hco.mhlw.go.jp/fasttrack/>

(MySOS [the Health and Location Monitoring App for Overseas Entrants])

1 Why does the App designated by the MHLW need to be installed on the smartphone of cross-border traveler and returnee to Japan?

(Answer)

- 1 During the quarantine period after entry into Japan, the MHLW (the Health Monitoring Center for Overseas Entrants) will follow up on cross-border travelers and returnees' health status, location data, address information through MySOS.
- 2 Therefore, a receiving organization should please notify cross-border travelers and returnees for whom a home quarantine is required to install MySOS if the cross-border travelers and returnees can prepare a smartphone before arriving in Japan.
- 3 Cross-border travelers and returnees to Japan from countries/regions in Group “Blue” and cross-border travelers and returnees to Japan from countries/regions in Group “Yellow” who obtain valid vaccination certificates (with a third dose) will not be subject to tests at airport quarantines and will not be required a home quarantine. Cross-border travelers and returnees to Japan from countries/regions in Group “Red” will be required quarantine at a specific facility designated by the Chief of the Quarantine Station. Therefore, those travelers are not subject to follow-ups through MySOS. However, they are requested to install the MySOS App before entering Japan to ensure smooth quarantine procedures with “Fast Track.”.

(MySOS [the Health and Location Monitoring App for Overseas Entrants])

2 How do I download and set up the App designated by the MHLW (MySOS)?

(Answer)

- 1 Please refer to the “User Guide” on the website of the Health Monitoring Center for Overseas Entrants.

(The Health Monitoring Center for Overseas Entrants)

<https://www.hco.mhlw.go.jp/>

- 2 If you have individual details you are unclear about, please contact:
 - followup@hco.mhlw.go.jp or
 - Phone: 03-6757-1038

Furthermore, please contact us by email when possible because the phone line is extremely busy.

(MySOS [the Health and Location Monitoring App for Overseas Entrants])

3 What should I do when I cannot install the App designated by the MHLW (MySOS) while overseas?

(Answer)

- 1 Cross-border travelers and returnees for whom a home quarantine is required need to have a smartphone or other device which can install MySOS App for follow-ups. If you can bring a smartphone to Japan, please install the App immediately after entering Japan. If you find that you cannot install MySOS on your smartphone, you will need to rent a smartphone at your own expense at the airport (quarantine).
- 2 You can apply for Fast Track via MySOS Web without installing MySOS on your smartphone.

(MySOS [the Health and Location Monitoring App for Overseas Entrants])

4 What should cross-border traveler and returnee to Japan do if they cannot bring a smartphone to Japan?

(Answer)

If a home quarantine is required, you do not have a smartphone that can install MySOS, you will need to rent a smartphone at your own expense at the airport (quarantine) after entering Japan.

(What do you do if you become COVID-19 positive?)

1 What should be done if it is found that cross-border traveler and returnee to Japan test COVID-19 positive during a COVID-19 test at quarantine when entering Japan?

(Answer)

You will need to follow directions of the Chief of the Quarantine Station and recuperate at a specific facility designated by the Chief of the Quarantine Station. In this situation, the quarantine period cannot be shortened.

(What do you do if you become COVID-19 positive?)

2 What should be done if cross-border traveler and returnee to Japan become COVID-19 positive or symptomatic?

(Answer)

If cross-border travelers and returnees become COVID-19 positive or symptomatic during the period of home quarantine, the relaxation of their quarantine period will not be allowed. After immediately having an examination at a medical facility, please follow instructions from a public health center or another facility if you receive them.

(Place of quarantine)

1 Is a single room required when cross-border traveler and returnee to Japan secure a place for quarantine?

(Answer)

Supervision by single room is required in principle during the quarantine period to prevent the spread of infections.

(Place of quarantine)

2 Is a home allowed when receiving organizations secure a place for quarantine for foreign nationals newly entering Japan?

(Answer)

In principle, if supervision by single room can be guaranteed, a home is also recognized. Please refer to the link below for points of caution.

(MHLW: COVID-19 Q&A [for the general public])

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou_iryuu/dengue_fever_qa_00001.html#Q3-2

(Health monitoring)

1 How should a newly entering foreign national's health be monitored specifically (as per the terms of a receiving organization's pledge)?

(Answer)

- 1 If a home quarantine is necessary, basically, please ask foreign nationals to take their temperature daily and check whether they have COVID-19 symptoms, including fever, respiratory symptoms, and fatigue.
- 2 If confirmed as symptomatic, please contact a medical facility immediately for consultation or examination as needed and follow instructions from a public health center or another facility if you receive them.

(Violation of a Written Pledge)

1 What measure should be taken when cross-border traveler and returnee to Japan or receiving organization violates a Written Pledge or the terms of a pledge?

(Answer)

- 1 If cross-border travelers and returnees violate the Written Pledge they sign at quarantine when entering Japan (including if there has been a false statement. Hereafter the same.), in addition to the possibility that their names and other information that contribute to preventing the spread of infection may be made public by the relevant authority, such as the MHLW, They may be detained according to the provisions of the Quarantine Act. Moreover, foreign nationals may also be subject to the revocation of their residence status, procedures for deportation under Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Law.
- 2 Additionally, if a receiving organization violates the terms of the pledge when it was signed, or if cross-border travelers and returnees violate their Written Pledge, the enterprise/organization name of the receiving organization may be made public. Additionally, the receiving organization's applications related to the new entry of foreign nationals may not be accepted in the future.