

PROCEDURE FOR EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF RE-ENTRY PERMIT

A. RE-ENTRY PERMIT

- Foreign nationals residing in Japan, who wish to leave Japan temporarily and then return during the authorized term of residence, may re-enter Japan without obtaining a visa if they receive in advance, a "re-entry permit" from the nearest Regional Immigration Bureau or its branches.
- The maximum validity of the re-entry permit is set at "5 years", if it does not exceed the period of stay. In the case of special permanent residents, the maximum validity of the re-entry permit is set at "6 years".
- Two types of Re-entry permit are: Multiple which can be used several times within the period of validity and Single which is valid for only one time and has to be re-applied once used at the Regional Immigration Bureau.

B. Cases that can and cannot apply for extension of period of validity

- Application for extension of validity of re-entry permit outside Japan can be done within 7 years from the date the permit was issued as special permanent residents and up to 6 years from the date the permit was issued for those holding other status of residence. Extension beyond these periods is not possible. Also, re-entry permits cannot be extended beyond the authorized term of residence/period of stay.
- Please apply for extension of re-entry permit within the validity period of the existing re-entry permit. In principle, if the period of validity of the permit has expired, it cannot be extended.
- If you leave the country on a special re-entry permit, the period of validity cannot be extended.

C. Requirement

(1) Passport

Note: In cases where the passport with re-entry permit has already expired, a new passport as well as the passport with re-entry permit must be submitted.

(2) Application Form for extension of Re-entry Permit

Note1: Please be sure to write "reason why you are requesting for extension"

Note2: Application Forms are available at any of the accredited travel agencies

(3) (If the validity of the re-entry permit has expired) Reason for applying after the expiry re-entry permit and proof/supporting documents

(4) Residence Card or Special Permanent Resident Certificate

D. Filing/Application

All applications must be done thru accredited travel agencies.

E. POINTS TO REMEMBER

- For lost passports with re-entry permit, please ask relatives etc. in Japan to obtain a “Certificate of validity of Re-entry Permit” issued by Regional Immigration Office and submit.
 - For delivery of “Certificate of validity of Re-entry Permit” in cases where there is no relative in Japan, please ask the Regional Immigration Office.
- The shortest period for the review/examination is (2) working days (excluding holidays) however, it may take longer depending on the content of the application, thus earlier application is encouraged.
- Even if you have an existing multiple re-entry permit, the extended re-entry permit that will be issued by Embassy will no longer be multiple-entry and will be valid for single entry only. Accordingly, after the extended re-entry permit is used to enter Japan, you cannot re-enter Japan without securing a new re-entry permit (including special re-entry permit).