

Comprehensive Measures for Acceptance and Coexistence of Foreign nationals (revised) [Outline]

December 20, 2019
Ministerial Conference on
Acceptance and Coexistence of
Foreign nationals

The government introduced “Comprehensive Measures for Acceptance and Coexistence of Foreign nationals” in December 2018. In line with the direction of “Enhancement of Comprehensive Measures for Acceptance and Coexistence of Foreign nationals” formulated in June 2019, the government has revised the Comprehensive Measures. Continuously, the relevant ministries and agencies will work together to steadily implement and enhance the Comprehensive Measures.

Efforts aimed at promoting appropriate and smooth acceptance of foreign nationals (measures to prevent the concentration of specified skilled workers in metropolitan areas and other specific areas, smooth implementation of skill exams on the Specified Skilled Worker)

- **Promote job matching support connecting foreign workers seeking employment to companies in the region** (financial support for local governments that perform job matching in the Care Worker field, mediation for job offers and job seeking by the organization for specified skilled workers in the construction field, implementing of model project through collaboration between the local governments and the Public Employment Security Offices (Hello Work))
- **Active support for voluntary, proactive and leading efforts by the local governments through Subsidy Program for Promotion of Regional Revitalization** (collection of reference cases, horizontal deployment etc.)
- **Expand opportunity to take skill exams on the Specified Skilled Worker** (enabling temporary visitor to take the exams), and prevention of fraud in the Japanese language tests

Support for foreign nationals as residents

- **Expand support to local governments for one-stop consulting counters** (expansion of the scope of the subsidies to all local governments and to multiple local government's cooperation, corresponding to consultation from Japanese nationals contributing coexistence)
- **Establish the “Center for Harmonious Coexistence with Foreign Nationals” (provisional name)** consolidating the related departments of the Immigration Services Agency, the Japan Legal Support Centers (“Houterasu”), human rights organs, the Public Employment Security Offices (“Hello Work”), visa information desks, JETRO and others (promoting foreign nationals' employment in rural areas, responding to inquiries from the one-stop consulting counters, training for local government officials, trial implementation of interpretation support services)
- **Create guideline for utilization of “Plain Japanese”**
- **Efforts aimed at realizing AI simultaneous interpretation and expanding supported languages concerning multilingual speech translation technology**
- **Enhance spread information and support at the time of a disaster** (Promotion of disaster information in 14 languages, multilingualize responses to “Dial 119”)
- **Requests for procedures to obtain a driving license to be provided in multiple languages** (the driving license tests, procedures to change from a foreign driving license to a Japanese driving license)
- **Prepare an environment to facilitate the opening of accounts by foreign nationals at banks and other financial institutions** (publication of leaflets in 14 languages, appropriate management of bank accounts through keeping track of the period of stay by financial institutions)
- **Enhance Japanese language education for foreign nationals as residents** (preparation of a comprehensive system to reinforce the Japanese language education environment in the region, expansion of supported languages of ICT learning teaching materials)
- **Support evaluation for Japanese communication skills in working situations of foreign workers** (creation of definition for communication ability and evaluation tools and provision to each company as a model)
- **Ensure school attendance of foreign children and pupils properly** (spreading of the best examples of understanding of school attendance status and promoting of school attendance based on result of “survey for school attendance of foreign national children” , support for local governments that provide meticulous guidance such as Japanese language education)
- **Strengthen support of employment for international students**
 - **Promotion of employment for international students who graduate in autumn** (promotion of year-round recruitment, notifying on the status of “Designated Activities” that allow international students who have been offered a job to stay until employment to companies)
 - **Sharing a checklist and best practices in order to promote flexibility in the recruitment process and treatment after hiring by responding to the each Japanese ability of the international students, dissemination from the relevant ministries and agencies to economic organizations and universities**
 - **To promote acceptance of internship of international student in Japan and from overseas** (briefing session and seminar at the “Center for Harmonious Coexistence with Foreign Nationals”(provisional name))
- **Multilingualize safety and health education materials** for foreign workers, creation of teaching materials for danger experience by VR technology

Construction of a new residency management system

- **Stricter examinations of status of residence**, such as not to allow universities and other educational institutions with improper management of the enrollment of international students to accept international students, and to create the same standards to Japanese language educational institutions
- **Strengthen efforts to prevent the disappearance of technical intern trainees** (efforts such as suspension of acceptance for a certain period of time with regard to implementing organizations that are at fault for the disappearances) , **check strictly the requirements including the same amount of remuneration to Japanese workers, disseminate that technical intern trainees can change their training sites in case of such as human rights violations**
- **Consider effective deportation methods as well as legislative and other measures**, building upon the discussion of “the Expert Meeting on Detention and Deportation”