

Japan's Immigration

- 1) Statistics
 - a) Japan Population: 128,083,960 (of October 2010)
 - i) 98.5% Japanese
 - ii) 1.5% Other
 - (1) Dropping since 2010
 - (2) Estimated to continue dropping to 87 Million by 2060
 - (a) 40% will be 65 and over
- 2) Why so few immigrants?
 - a) Difficult system/wall
 - i) Japan doesn't just want immigrants
 - (1) Wants those who will benefit/work in the country
 - b) Standards to enter/be accepted are hard
 - i) 3/600 Indonesian and Philippine nurses have passed the standards test since 2007
 - c) Anti-Immigration Feelings
 - i) Fear of Change
 - (1) Don't want to lose their unique culture and identity.
 - ii) Education
 - (1) Japanese language can only be understood/grasped by Japanese themselves
 - (2) Japanese people are wearing a "rain coat" all the time
 - (a) You'll never really meet the real them.
 - iii) Japanese Nationalism
 - (1) Japanese people/culture as a "superior"
 - iv) Crime
 - (1) Blame on those who are Chinese and Korean more than Japanese
 - d) History
 - i) Japan last to open up to international communication/trade
 - (1) While the rest of the world was communicating and developing with one another, Japan was the last to start.

- 3) Benefits of Immigration for Japan
 - a) Brings in new/younger workers
 - i) Balances the aging population
 - ii) Good for economy
 - b) Makes Japan more “global”
 - i) The Japanese people can get used to more foreigners coming to live in Japan.
- 4) Negatives of Immigration for Japan
 - a) Cross Culture Friction
 - i) Japanese have to cater to foreigner’s needs
- 5) Visa System
 - a) General Visa
 - i) Not necessary for Passport holders staying 90 days or less.
 - b) Working Visa
 - i) Certificate of Eligibility
 - (1) issued before a visa application by a regional immigration authority the Ministry of Justice.
 - (2) Includes the requirements that the activity in which the foreign national wishes to engage in Japan are not fraudulent and is an activity that comes under a status of residence.
 - c) Visa Point System
 - i) As of April 2012
 - ii) For highly skilled professionals
 - iii) Preferential immigration treatment
 - iv) Introduced in order to promote more acceptances of highly skilled foreign nationals who have advanced abilities
 - (1) Expected to contribute to economic growth and creation of new demand and employment in Japan.
 - v) Foreign professionals who earn 70 points or more will be recognized as “highly skilled foreign professionals. Given preferential immigration treatment.
 - (1) Points System
 - (a) As requested by the applicants, the activities of the highly skilled foreign nationals will be classified into 3 categories: (1) Academic research activities, (2) Advanced

specialized/technical activities, and (3) Business management activities. According to characteristic features of each category of the activities, evaluation will be made by setting points to such items as “educational attainment”, “period of professional experience”, “promised annual salary” and “research performance”.

(2) System Example

(a) Business Management Activity

(i) Academic Background

1. Doctor's or Master's Degree 20 points
2. Bachelor's Degree 10 points

(ii) Working Background

1. 10 Years 25 points
2. 7~ Years 20 points
3. 7 Years 15 points
4. 5 Years 10 points

(iii) Promised Annual Salary

1. 30 Million Yen 50 points
2. 25 Million Yen 40 points
3. 20 Million Yen 30 points
4. 15 Million Yen 20 points
5. 10 Million Yen 10 points

(iv) Bonus (1)

(v) Bonus (2)

(vi) Bonus (3)

(vii) Bonus (4)

(3) Benefits

(a) Permission for multiple purposes of activities during the stay in Japan

(b) Grant of the "5 years" period of stay (Note)

(c) Relaxation of requirements for grant of the permission for permanent residence in line with the history of staying in Japan (In general, the permission for permanent residence will be granted for about 5 years of stay.)

(d) Preferential processing of immigration and stay procedures

(e) Permission for a spouse of a highly skilled foreign professional to work

- (f) Permission for bringing a parent of a highly skilled foreign professional under certain conditions
- (g) Permission for a domestic servant employed by a highly skilled person under certain conditions

<http://www.japantoday.com/category/opinions/view/why-are-japanese-averse-to-immigration>

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http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demographics_of_Japan#Demographic_statistics_from_the_CIA_World_Factbook

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