

Procedure for obtaining a visa

The standard process for obtaining a visa for a person who intends to enter and stay in JAPAN long term under a status of residence such as "Student", "designated activity" etc. is as follows:

The university, the organization or the company in japan would consult with and make an application for a 「Certificate of Eligibility」 to the Japanese regional immigration bureau.



Once the Certificate of Eligibility has been issued, it is sent to the visa applicant. The applicant makes an application for a Visa at the Japanese Embassy.

Outline of the status of residence for 「internship」

- Where the internship is paid : designated activity
- When an unpaid internship :
 - less than 90 days : temporary visitor
 - over 90 days : cultural activity

There are several criteria for obtaining a visa for an internship.

One is that the applicant should be a student at a Foreign university. Therefore the most important thing is that the applicant must be a student at a Foreign university NOT a Japanese University. In this case, even if the applicant is studying at a Japanese University, the applicant should be enrolled as a student at Cambridge University as well as be engaging in the activity as a student of Cambridge University.

Please check directly with the Japanese regional immigration bureau about the other detailed conditions regarding applying for a Certificate of Eligibility.

When studying at a Japanese university for 9 months before starting an internship.

The Japanese university should make an application for a Certificate of Eligibility to the Japanese regional immigration bureau.

Once the Certificate of Eligibility has been issued, it is sent to the visa applicant



The applicant makes an application for a Visa at the Japanese Embassy.



Applicant enters Japan and starts studying at a Japanese university, then after the company or organization for the internship has been decided, the applicant goes to the Japanese regional immigration bureau and makes a 「change the status of residence」 application.

Engaging in internship activity without studying at a Japanese university

Japanese company or university should make an application for a Certificate of Eligibility to the Japanese regional immigration bureau:

- Once the Certificate of Eligibility has been issued, it is sent to the visa applicant
- The applicant makes an application for a Visa at the Japanese Embassy.