

Before you apply for the interview, please look through this explanation document and consider if your purpose of visit to Japan meets the criteria.

Overview of the System for Identifying Persons Qualified for Complementary Protection

Japan successively acceded to the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (hereinafter referred to as the "Refugee Convention") in 1981 and the Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees in 1982, and has recognized foreign nationals who qualify as refugees under the Convention and Protocol and has provided them with appropriate protection. On the other hand, in recent years, there have been foreign nationals, such as conflict refugees, whose reasons for fear of persecution do not fall under any of the five grounds for persecution under the Refugee Convention: race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion, and therefore do not qualify as "refugees" under the Convention, but still require protection.

To ensure the protection of conflict-displaced persons and others who, while not considered "refugees" under the Convention, deserve the same level of protection, a system for recognizing persons eligible for supplementary protection was launched on December 1, 2023.

A "person eligible for supplementary protection" is a person other than a refugee under the Refugee Convention who meets the requirements for refugee status other than having a reason for fear of persecution that is race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion. The procedure for determining whether a person is eligible for supplementary protection is a procedure for examining and determining whether a foreigner qualifies as a person eligible for supplementary protection.

Benefits that can be enjoyed by foreign nationals who have been designated as persons eligible for supplementary protection.

Foreign nationals who are recognized as eligible for supplementary protection can receive the following benefits:

1. Granting of a stable residence status

Foreign nationals who are recognized as recipients of supplementary protection are, in principle, granted the "long-term resident" status of residence, just like foreign nationals who are recognized as refugees.

2. Partial relaxation of permanent residency requirements

In order for a foreigner with a valid residence status to obtain permanent residency,

(1) Having good conduct.

(2) Having assets or skills sufficient to maintain an independent livelihood.

The following two requirements must be met, and it must be recognized that the person's permanent residency is in the best interests of Japan.

However, foreign nationals residing in Japan who have been recognized as recipients of supplementary protection may, at the discretion of the Minister of Justice, be granted permanent residency even if they do not meet requirement (2) above.

3. Participation in a Resettlement support program

Foreign nationals who are certified as eligible for supplementary protection and wish to participate may be able to take part in a Resettlement support program aimed at enabling them to live an independent and stable life in Japan.

Regarding the Resettlement support program ["Support for Convention Refugees, Supplementary Protection Recipients, and Third-Country Resettlement Refugees"](#) Please take a look.

*Foreign nationals who have been recognized as recipients of supplementary protection cannot receive a refugee travel document, which is issued to foreign nationals who have been recognized as refugees, but they can receive a re-entry permit.

【Important】

Starting on December 1, 2023, the Japanese support system for evacuees has undergone changes. Under the new system, you will be responsible for covering the cost of your ticket to Japan. Additionally, you will need to reserve a hotel for at least two working days immediately after entering Japan for processing your application at the Tokyo Immigration Bureau and RHQ. Please see the attached documents for information on applying at these authorities and planning your flight and hotel.

Once you arrive in Japan, you should proceed to apply for complementary protection in Japanese Immigration Services Agency. If you are granted protected person status, you will be eligible for long-term resident status. However, it is important to understand that recognition is not guaranteed. Once recognized, you can apply for the Resettlement Support Program, which may last for either six months or one year. The program participants will have the opportunity to participate in Japanese language courses and adaptation programs for life in Japan. During this period, you can receive financial assistance for living expenses.

For more information, please check the website of Japanese Immigration Services Agency.

https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/support/fresc/12_00125.html

Support for Persons Subject to Complementary Protection

https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/support/fresc/12_00124.html