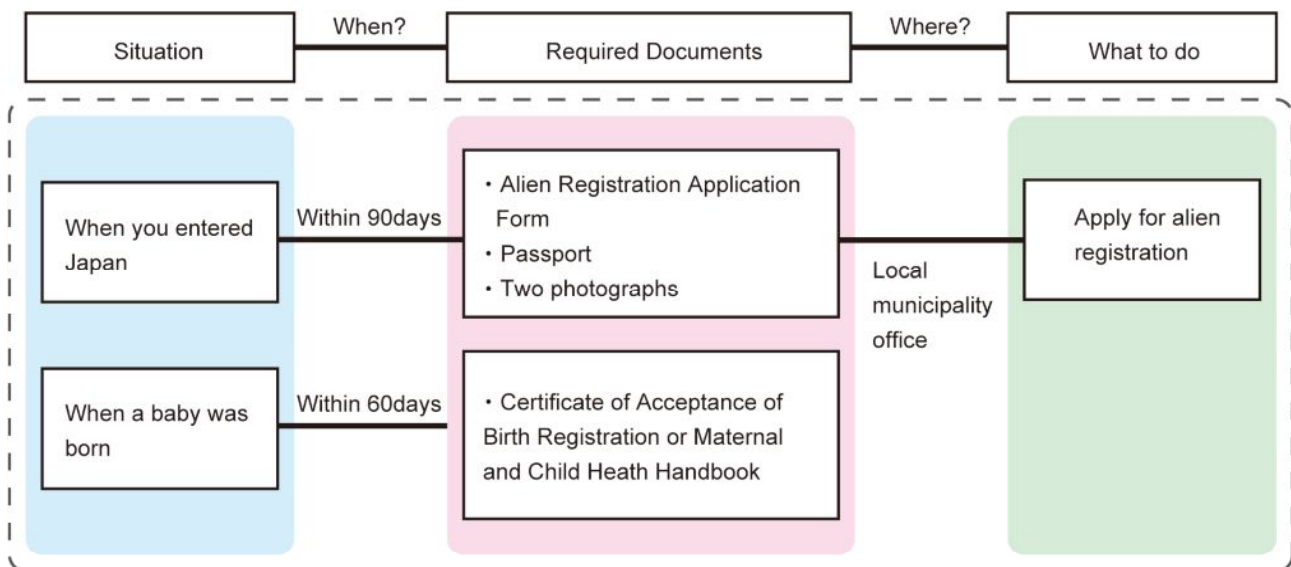


IV Necessary Procedures to reside in Japan · Marriage · Divorce

IV-1 Alien Registration

Foreign nationals who have entered Japan or are born in Japan are required to apply for alien registration. The alien registration card, issued after registration, works as proof of identification, and non-Japanese people in Japan, from the age of 16, have to always carry it on their person. If an official, such as a police officer asks you to show it, you must to do that. However, within 3 years from 2009, the process of alien registration will dramatically change. For details on changes, please contact the Immigration Bureau (Appendix page 68 Ⅹ-1).

1. New Registration



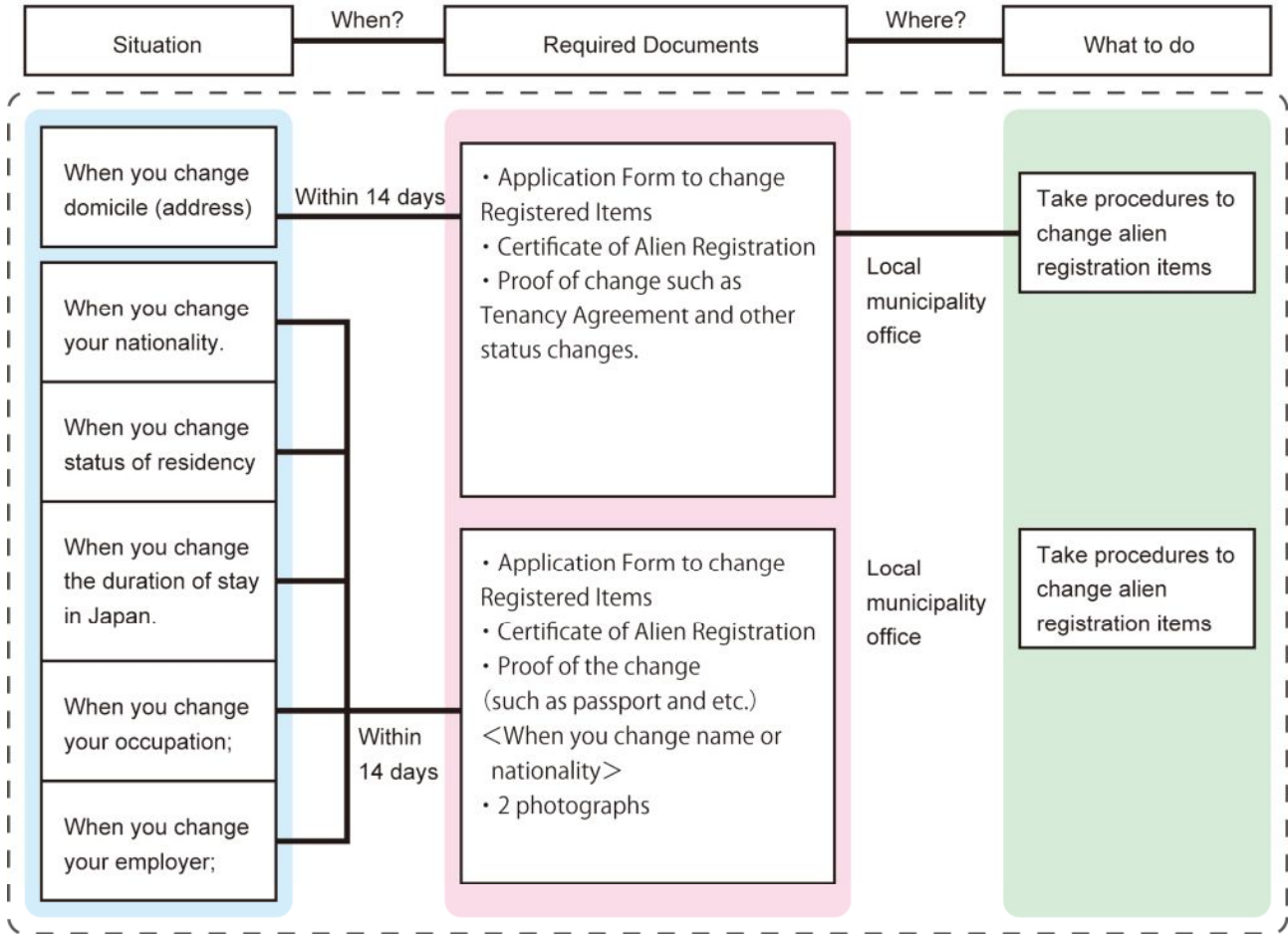
If these conditions below are applicable to you, you must register as an alien registration at your local municipality office:

1. Non-Japanese Nationals.
2. Staying in Japan for 90 days or longer.

When you deliver a baby holding no Japanese nationality, you must apply for alien registration for him/her within 60 days from when the baby is born. For application, please bring two photographs (4.5cm x 3.5cm) and passport. (For the child under 16 years old, no photograph is required.)

This registration will be helpful because it works as proof of your address in Japan when you make various types of procedures or make a contract, so if you are an obliged person (as noted above), please follow the stated procedure to apply for it.

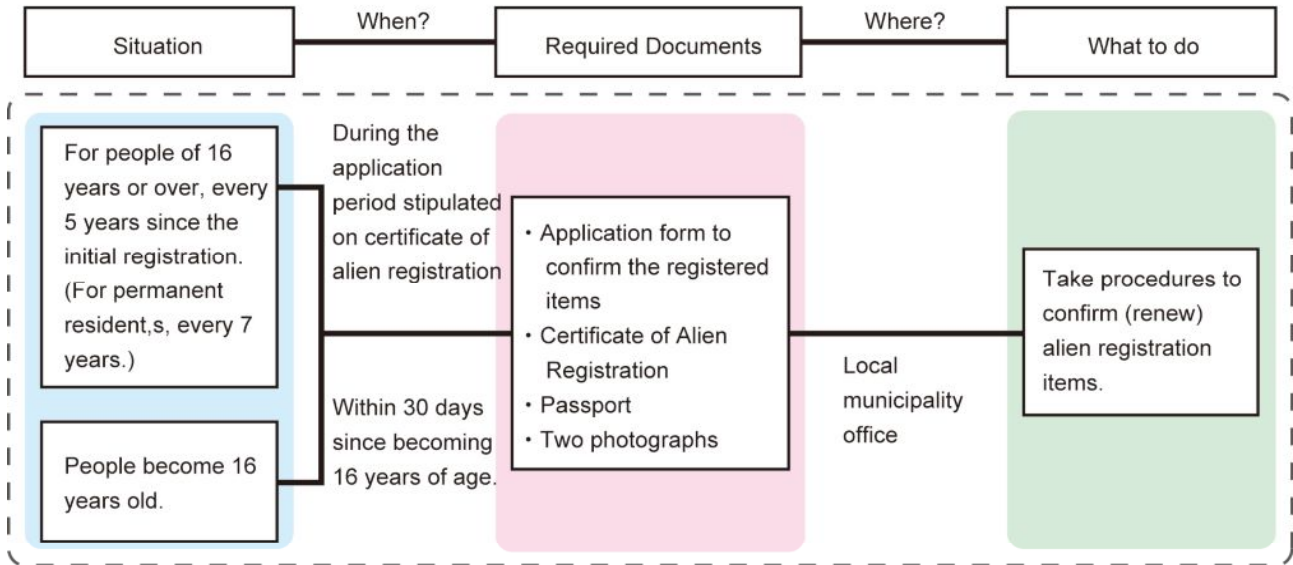
2. Change Registration Items



Among the registered items on alien registration, if there are any changes in domicile (address), name, nationality, occupation, resident status, length of stay, employers' or work places' name(s) or location(s), you are required to notify your local municipality within 14 days. (Appendix Page 62 IX-1)

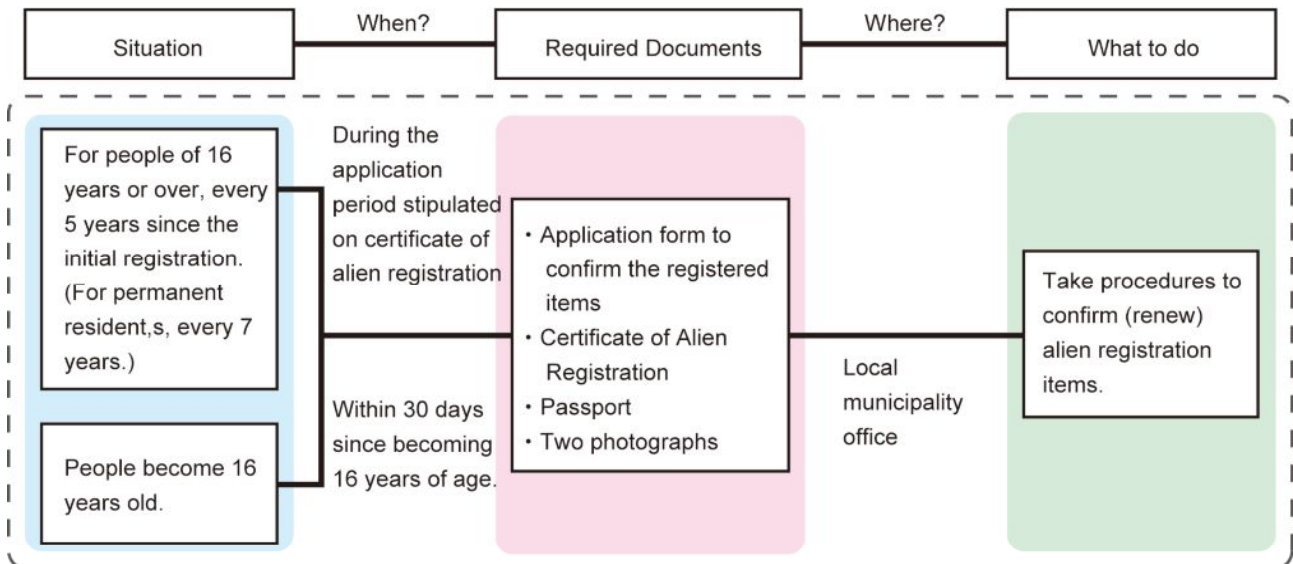


3. Confirmation (Renewal) Procedure



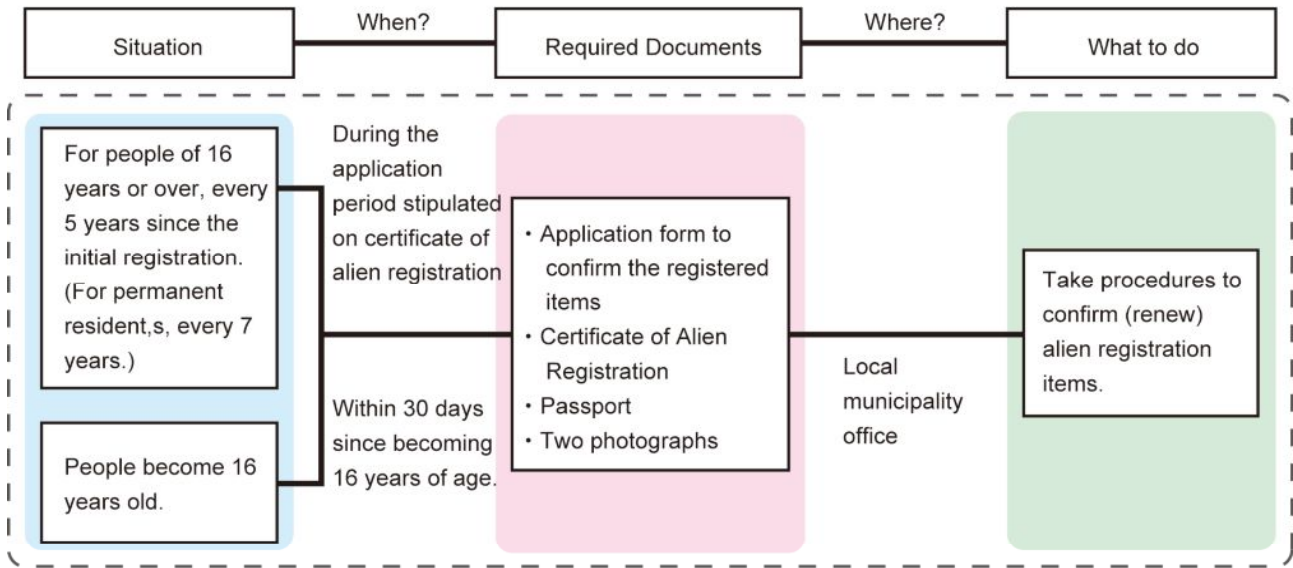
Since the initial alien registration, in principal, every 5 years (every 7 years for permanent resident and special permanent resident) it is required to take a renewal procedure in local municipality office where you live. People under age 16 years are not required to take this procedure, but those who reach age 16 years must do so within 30 days from their 16th birthday.

4. Re-issue



When certificate of alien registration is lost or stolen, you must apply for re-issue in your local municipality office where you live within 14 days from the incident occurred. If necessary, submit a lost or stolen report or others in addition to your passport and two photographs.

5. Issuing as exchange



When certificate of alien registration is torn or stained, you need to apply for re-issue as exchange within 14 days from when the incident occurred.



IV-2 Necessary Procedures for Residence in Japan

1.Reentry Permit (When you temporarily leaving Japan)

When temporarily leaving Japan within the valid period of your visa, you may obtain a reentry permit in order to enter Japan upon your return. The permit is valid for up to three years (but it cannot exceed the valid period of stay in Japan) and is available in single and multiple reentry forms. However, if your visa status is short-term, you are not entitled to obtain a reentry permit. The following documents are required for application:

- 1.Application for reentry permit (This can be found at the receptionist's desk in your local Regional Immigration Bureau.)
- 2.Certificate of Alien Registration (Appendix page 25 IV-1)
- 3.Passport
- 4.3,000 yen revenue stamp (for single reentry permits), 6,000 yen revenue stamp (for multiple reentry permits)

Reentry permits are usually issued on the day you apply. Applications in Osaka Prefecture are taken at the Osaka Regional Immigration Bureau Central Office.

2.Renewal of the Duration of Resident Permit

There is a time limit to the stay you have been permitted in Japan. When wishing to extend this stay to continue same activity you are engaged in, you must apply for renewal and obtain a permit. Applications can be made within two months of the limit of your current stay. The following documents are required.

- 1.Application Form for renewing the duration of resident permit (This can be found at the receptionist's desk in your local Regional Immigration Bureau.)
- 2.Passport
- 3.Certificate of alien registration
- 4.Documents that verify your activities in Japan, past, present and future (planned). (We recommend that you inquire in regards to the required documents at the Osaka Alien Residency Comprehensive Information Center (Appendix page 72 IX—2) as they differ with each status. If you have renewed the duration of resident permit before, in principal, you need to submit the same types of documents as you did previously.)
- 5.Documents such as proof of employment (employment contract, etc.), proof of tax payments and etc., verifying that you can pay the necessary costs for living in Japan and engaging in the specified activities during your stay.

Permit

After reviewing the document you submit, whether you are approved to remain in Japan or not will be determined. When you apply, your passport will be stamped with a message stating that you are currently applying for an extension .Please note that divorce or other status change activities may affect your resident status. Application is made at the Immigration Bureau.

3.Changing Residential Status from Current Permit Status

If you have a valid resident permit, but you start an activity categorized as requiring different type of resident permit, you need to apply for the change of your status of residence. Under this system, you can change your resident status to a different category without leaving Japan (even temporarily). Please apply after the things requiring you to change your resident status have happened and before your current permit expires.

Required documents differ depending on which status of residence you apply for, so please ask the Osaka Alien Residency Comprehensive Information Center. Further, the Immigration Bureau homepage explains it:

http://www.moj.go.jp/ONLINE/IMMIGRATION/ZAIRYU_HENKO/zairyu_henko10.html

(in Japanese only)

4.Permit Engaging in the Activity excluded from the Current Permit

If you engage in a work excluded from activities permitted by your resident permit, it is regarded as

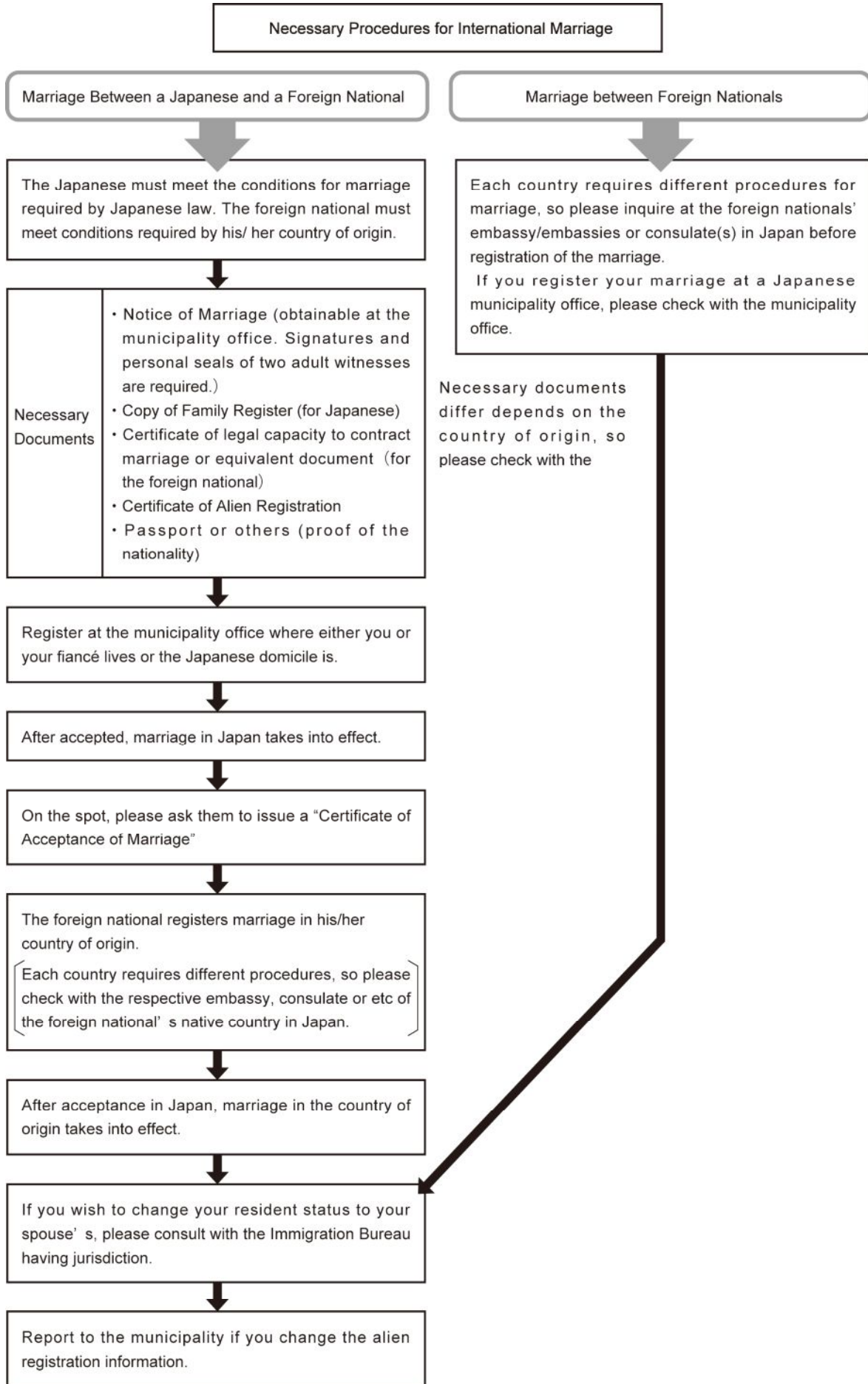
illegal employment. For example, when an international student from abroad who wishes to work at even a part time job, s/he must apply for the “Permit to engage in activities excluded from the current permit”. Before engaging in a full or part time job, please obtain the permit from the Immigration Bureau.

Necessary Documents

1. Application form for Permit Engaging in the Activity excluded from the Current Permit
2. Certificate of Alien Registration
3. Passport
4. Document to that provides proof of the planned activity



IV-3 Marriage



1.Marriage between Japanese and Foreign National

When a couple including a Japanese and a foreign national marry in Japan, they register their marriage by submitting a form to the local municipality office. The Japanese has to meet the conditions required by the Japanese law, and the foreign national has to meet the conditions required by his/her country of origin. The documents below are required.

- 1.Certificate of Alien Registration
- 2.Passport (proof of the nationality)
- 3.Certificate of legal capacity to contract marriage or equivalent document issued by the embassy or consulate of the country of origin.(Translation with the translator's name, address and stamped hanko (personal seal) must be attached to non-Japanese documents.)
- 4.Notification of Marriage (These are available at the local municipality office. In order to register your marriage, you must have the seals of two witnesses who are 20 years of age or older. In addition, the notification must be written in Japanese.)
- 5.Copy or abstract of family register (for Japanese)

The marriage registered in Japan should be notified to the foreign national's country of origin. To do that, "Certificate of Acceptance of Marriage" is required, so please ask the municipality where you register your marriage to issue it. Each country requires different procedures, so please check with embassy or consulate of the country of origin. (Appendix page 89 Ⅹ—5)

A marriage is valid from the day it is registered.

2.Marriage between foreign nationals

It is possible, under certain conditions, for two foreign nationals register their marriage bound by Japanese law. However, please note the marriage in Japan might not be immediately valid in the country of origin. About the procedures for marriage registration, please check with the embassy or consulate of the country of origin (Appendix page 89 Ⅹ—5)and the municipality office (Appendix page 62 Ⅹ—1)at where you will register your marriage.

3.Changing Resident Status

If you change your resident status to "spouse of Japanese" after marrying a Japanese citizen, or if you switch to spouse visa because of the marriage between foreign nationals, please contact with the Alien Residency Comprehensive Information Center Osaka for information. (Appendix page 72 Ⅹ—2)

4.Changing Alien Registration Information

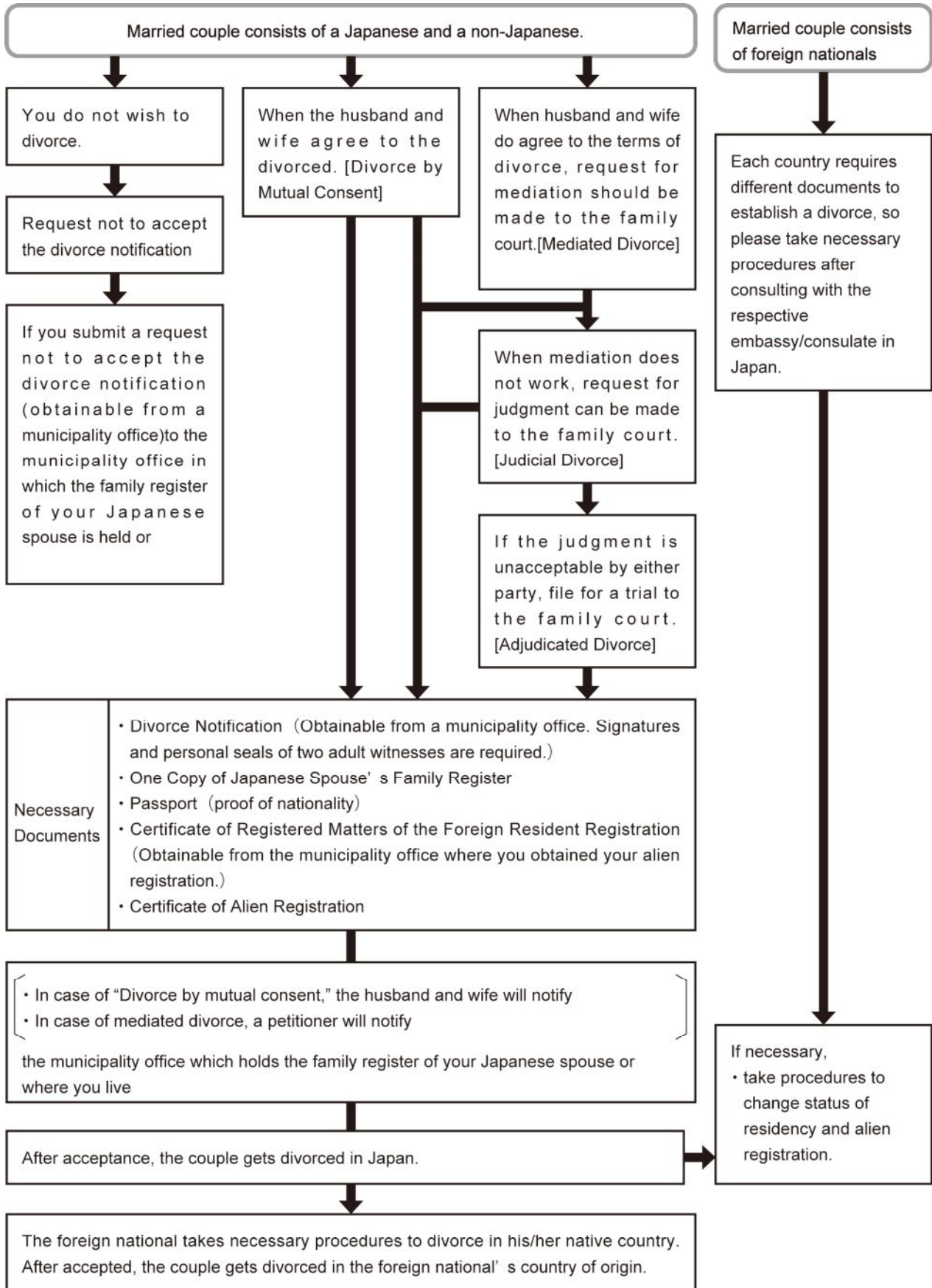
If you change your name, address or any other information because of marriage, you must submit notification of the change(s) to the alien registration desk at your local municipality office (Appendix page 62 Ⅹ—1).

5.Other Changes

After getting married, applications and procedures, etc. for taxes, pension, Health Insurance and benefits from the employer may be treated differently. Therefore, please check with the person in charge of human resources (personnel) in your company.

IV-4 Divorce

Legal procedures concerning divorce in international marriages can be complicated. Even though divorce is recognized according to the procedures taken in Japan, it may be not recognized as a valid divorce in your native country. Here, we provide only a general explanation regarding the procedures to divorce under Japanese law.



1. When you divorce:

In cases in which either the husband or the wife is a Japanese living in Japan, and both of them agree to the divorce, the couple can be divorced by the Japanese law. In Japan, there is a system of “divorce by mutual consent” by which the notification of divorce is submitted and accepted and is legal, based on the agreement by both the wife and husband. “Mediated divorce,” “Judicial divorce,” and “Adjudicated divorce” are brought about through involvement of the family court. If you take procedures to get divorced in Japan, but if you do not do so in your native country, it may cause you inconveniences because still you will be recognized as still married in your country. Therefore, please also take procedures to get divorced in your native country as well.

When both wife and husband are non-Japanese, the requirements and necessary procedures for the divorce are different, depending on a country. In such cases, you are advised to inquire upon such matters at the respective embassy/embassies of the non-Japanese to divorce or consulate(s) in Japan (Appendix page 89 Ⅸ—5).

2. When You Do not Consent to a Divorce.

When someone with foreign nationality is pressed to divorce by a Japanese citizen, even you do not consent, if your (Japanese) spouse submits a signed notification without consensus, it can result in a standing divorce. In order to prevent this you should submit a request not to accept the divorce notification to the municipality office in which the family register of your Japanese spouse is held or where you live. If you submit the request, unless you agree to “divorce by consent,” you will not be forced to divorce by your spouse without mediation or other formal legal procedures. This system cannot be utilized if both wife and husband are non-Japanese, however.

3. Residence Status after Divorce

If you are residing in Japan with the status of Spouse of a Japanese National, you will lose that status upon divorce. Also, the same is said for any non-Japanese who is married to another non-Japanese and residing in Japan with the status of Dependent.

In both cases, not changing the status can result in your not being able to continuously reside in Japan. Thus, for such cases it is recommended that you inquire at locations offering consultation at municipality offices or at the Alien Residency Comprehensive Information Center, Osaka (Appendix page 72 Ⅸ—2).

4. Changing Alien Registration Items

If you change your name, address or any other personal information because of divorce, you must submit notification of the change(s) to the alien registration desk (Appendix page 62 Ⅸ—1) at your local municipality office.

IV-5 Death Notification

1. Death Notification

In the event that a non-Japanese dies in Japan, the legal requirements are the same as for Japanese citizens: notification must be submitted to the local municipality office and this must be done within seven days of confirmation of death. A licensed physician or medical examiner must essentially confirm death in Japan, whatever the case may be.

It is necessary to receive confirmation of death by a physician and have a death certificate prepared. This death certificate should be submitted to the authorities in the municipality of the deceased or the individual submitting the certificate. In addition to submission of the death notification, return the deceased person's alien registration card to the municipality office to close that person's registration. Also, please take necessary procedures required by the deceased person's country of origin. Necessary procedures differ from depends by country, so please check with the respective embassy or the consulate in Japan of the deceased (Appendix page 89 Ⅹ—5).



2. Burials

In densely populated Osaka Prefecture, there are virtually no cemeteries that will allow burials. Consult the respective consulate or equivalent (Appendix page 89 Ⅹ—5) when the deceased person's cremation is not allowed because of his/her religion, beliefs or conventions and s/he must be buried. Also consult the consulate or equivalent of the deceased when you are searching for a cemetery for a non-Japanese or if you are planning to transfer the body to the native country of the deceased.