

To all who have passed the National Examination

6 March, 2023

Procedures for Kangoshi and Kaigofukushishi Who Have Passed the National Examinations To Work as EPA Nurses and Care Workers (For Passers)

Acceptance Support for Foreign Professional Department
Japan International Corporation of Welfare Services (JICWELS)

Congratulations on passing the 2022 National Examinations for Kangoshi and Kaigofukushishi. You will graduate from the EPA candidates from this spring. JICWELS hopes your success as a qualified person in Japan. We congratulate and give best wishes to all who will have a fresh start on your continuous work in Japan.

The achievement you have made was able to be succeeded with not only your own effort but also together with the guidance/cooperation of the facility. Please keep that in your mind once again. Then when thinking about your future course, please consult well with people of the facility who have supported you in terms of your study and work, to make your decision.

The following procedures are required if the EPA candidates, who came to Japan under the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), wish to continuously work as an EPA nurse or an EPA care worker after having passed the national nursing examination or the national examination for certified care workers. Those who wish to work as an EPA nurse or an EPA care worker need to confirm and proceed the following procedures.

1. Registration of National Qualification

Before working as a nurse, it is necessary to apply for the license after having passed the national examination and to be registered in the nurse registry managed by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW).

As for care workers, it is necessary to be registered in the certified care worker registry managed by the Social Welfare Promotion and National Examination Center after having passed the national examination. The procedures for the licensed nurse and the certified care worker are specified below.

1) Application procedures of Nurse's license

Please visit the desk of the public health center that supervises your residential area (some public health centers may not have reception desks, so please check the website of the prefecture where you live to find out where to submit) in order to submit an application for your license with the following necessary documents of [1] through [4] as blow;

[1] "License Application Form": Available at the public health center desk or to download from the following URL for completion.

*Revenue stamps worth 9,000 yen must be affixed in the space provided as the registration license tax.

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou_iryuu/iryuu/shikakushinsei.html

[2] “Medical Certificate”: The prescribed form is attached to the license application form. The certificate must have been issued within one month.

[3] “Certificate of residence”: Must have description of nationality etc. Also, must have been issued within the last six months. This card can be applied for and obtained at the desk of the municipal government office, where your residency is registered.

*Photocopy is not available.

[4] “Postcard for registered certificate (prescribed postcard for registered certificate)”: Write your address and name on the front, and write your name on the reverse. Submit with clips on the back of the medical certificate.

*Affix a 63-yen stamp or 323-yen stamps (in case of express mail).

Your license will generally be issued within around three months after completing the procedure.

<Inquiries>

- Person in charge of nurses’ licenses of the public health center supervising your residential area or of the public health bureau/department of the prefectural government
- License Registration Section, Examination & License Department, Medical Professions Division, Health Policy Bureau of Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW)
TEL: 03-5253-1111 (Extension: 2576, 2577)

2) Application Procedures of Care Worker’s Registration Certificate

Please send necessary documents [1] through [3] below to the following address by simple registered mail.

[1] “Registration Application Form”: Fill in the form enclosed together with your certificate of passing.

* Revenue stamps worth 9,000 yen must be affixed in the space provided as a registration certificate tax.

[2] “Certificate for Acceptance of the Transfer Payment of Registration Fee”: Affix the original of the “Certificate for Acceptance of the Transfer Payment” with a seal certifying that 3,320 yen has been paid as the registration fee to the affixing sheet.

[3] “Certificate of residence”: Must have description of nationality etc. This card can be applied for and obtained at the desk of the municipal government office, where your residency is registered.

*Photocopy is not available.

It usually takes around one month (one and half month when procedure is concentrated) for issue of Registration Certificate.

<Destination and Inquiries>

Registration Division of the Center of Social Welfare Promotion and National Examination Center

Address: 1-5-6 Shibuya, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo, Japan, 150-0002

TEL: 03-3486-7521

2. Employment Contract

After acquiring the national license, you will start working as an EPA nurse/care worker, not as a candidate for Kangoshi/Kaigofukushishi. Since it is necessary to reflect the working conditions as a qualified person, please change the contents of the current employment contract or conclude a new employment contract.

In addition, the content of the employment contract must ensure a remuneration equal to or higher than that of Japanese people engaged in similar duties.

3. Application for Change of Status of Residence

When working as an EPA nurse/care worker, you must apply for change of status of residence at the regional immigration office with jurisdiction over your district of residence.

Your status of residence will become “designated activities (EPA nurse or care worker)” after being changed (the status is still “designated activities”, however, the contents specified in the specification sheet will be changed). A maximum of 3 years will be given to the EPA nurse/care worker as a period of residence. Afterwards, renewal will be required before the expiration of the effective term.

Each application procedure of the cases of working at the same hospital / facility as before qualification acquisition and of changing the place of employment after qualification acquisition are as follows.

(1) Procedures when working in the same hospital/facility as before the qualification acquisition

Please submit the following necessary documents of [1] through [6] to the regional immigration office.

- [1] “Application for Change of Status of Residence”: Available at the regional immigration office desk or to download from the following URL for completion.

<https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/applications/procedures/16-2-1.html>

*Please use the format of “17 Status of Residence/Purpose of Entry other than above”.

- [2] “Photo (4 cm in height and 3 cm in width) one copy”:

The photo must be a clear frontal shot with no hats or background within three months prior to the application.

Write applicant’s name on the reverse side of the photo before affixing it to the application form.

- [3] “Passport & Residence Card (Alien Registration Certificate)”: Must be shown at the time of application.

- [4] “Copy of the Employment contract”: which is prepared under [2] above, specifying the contents of your activity, its period, your status and compensation, and other necessary information, after qualification acquisition.

- [5] “Certificate of Taxation (or Tax Exemption) for Resident Tax” and “Certificate of Tax Payment”: which specifies your annual total income and tax payment situation.

*Please ask the municipality office at your residency for issuance. If it is not issued from the municipal office due to moving etc., please consult with your nearest regional immigration office.

- [6] For nurses: A copy of the “Nurse’s License” or a copy of the “Certificate of the Nurse License Registry”.

For care workers: A copy of the “Certificate of Care Worker Registration”

*When your “Certificate of Care Worker Registration” is not available at the time of application, please take

your “Certificate of Passing the National Examination for Certified Care Workers” with you.

Please submit a copy of your “Certificate of Care Worker Registration” to the regional immigration office after it was issued and available to you.

(2) Procedures when changing facility (institution) after the qualification acquisition

You cannot work at any institution other than that designated in the certificate of designation for the status of residence, because the activities designated in the certificate of designation is permitted based on the employment contract exchanged with the designated institution. When changing the institution, it is necessary to apply for a permission to change the status of residence. Please note that you cannot work at new facility(institution) until you receive a permission.

When changing facility (institution), JICWELS must conduct a requirements examination about the content of the employment contract against a new accepting facility. After the confirmation of JICWELS, “Result of a requirements examination for acceptance of an EPA nurse or a care worker” which is required when applying for a permission to change the status of residence, is issued to a new accepting facility by JICWELS. You must submit a copy of “Result of a requirements examination for acceptance of an EPA nurse or a care worker” to the regional immigration office in your residency together with documents of (1) [1] through [6] when apply for a permission to change the status of residence.

You cannot work at new facility (institution) until you receive a permission from Immigration bureau, so please contact JICWELS as early as possible.

Besides, additional documents may be required during the examination process after the application.

Please note that when changing the facility (institution), the former employer must submit an employment contract termination report to JICWELS, so please ask a person in charge of the former employer to do so.

<Contact / Inquiries>

Acceptance Support for Foreign Professional Department of JICWELS

Email: shien-assen@jicwels.jp

TEL: 03-6206-1138

Q & A

Q1. What are the advantages in working as an EPA Nurse/Care Worker after passing the exam?

A1. An EPA Nurse/Care Worker can use JICWELS consultation desk through the phone or the email for free of charge when having concerns or questions in terms of employment, plan for future course or status of residence etc. Also, JICWELS regularly confirms with the facility of the employment situation once a year so that it brings a safe employment to an EPA Nurse/Care Worker. Moreover, there are the training conducted by JICWELS for an EPA Nurse/Care Worker. (Scheduled to resume in the future depending on the corona infection situation.)

<p>Q2. Is it possible to provide services at the residence after acquiring a national license?</p> <p>A2. Since April 1, 2017, it became possible for an EPA care worker to engage in operations to provide services at the residence after acquiring a national license. However, to provide services at the residence, the enterprise place which provides service at the residence must meet certain requirements. Also when an EPA care worker, whose status of residence was allowed for “designated activities (EPA care worker)” before March 31, 2017, engages in operations to provide services at the residence, he/she needs to apply for change of status of residence at the regional immigration office with jurisdiction over his/her district of residence. Please consult JICWELS beforehand when he/she provides services at the residence as JICWELS must confirm the requirements of the enterprise place first.</p> <p>Besides, an EPA nurse is not allowed to engage in operations to provide services at the residence.</p>
<p>Q3. Is it allowed to bring my family over to Japan?</p> <p>A3. Only the spouse or child (children) supported by an EPA nurse/care worker are allowed to apply for “designated activities (EPA nurse or care worker family stay activities)” to stay in Japan.</p> <p>https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/applications/procedures/zairyu_nintei10_21_07.html</p> <p>It is necessary to obtain the status of residence at Japanese Overseas Diplomatic Establishment after being issued Certificate of residence status (在留資格認定証明書).</p> <p>https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/toko/visa/chouki/visa13.html</p>
<p>Q4. Is it possible for my family came to Japan to work here?</p> <p>A4. Working in Japan under the residential status given to the family members of an EPA nurse/care worker is not permitted to work.</p> <p>However, it is possible to work for 28 hours maximum per week with permission of activities other than those permitted under the status of residence previously obtained from the regional immigration office.</p> <p>Please access the website of the Ministry of Justice for the applications procedure for permission of activities outside the scope permitted:</p> <p>(https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/applications/guide/nyuukokukanri07_00069.html)</p>
<p>Q5. Can I transfer to another institution to work after acquiring a national license?</p> <p>A5. Under EPA programme, it is possible to work for another institution/facility after concluding an employment contract with a new institution and obtaining permission for change of status of residence from the regional immigration office. However, many of the institutions / facilities accepting candidates for nurses and care workers strongly expect you to continue to work for them. Please consult with JICWELS when considering of transferring to another institution for working.</p>
<p>Q6. Do I need to retake OEC (Overseas Employment Certificate) because I am planning my temporary return to the Philippines after transferring?</p>

A6. Yes, it needs to be retaken. JICWELS issues a letter to prove of your transferring under EPA. The letter must be submitted to POEA for the procedures. So please contact JICWELS as soon as possible when having a plan of your temporary return.

*Filipino overseas workers need an OEC issued by POEA (Philippine Overseas Employment Agency) to leave the Philippines even if it is the temporary return. Without an OEC, they will not be able to pass the Philippine Immigration Bureau (passport control).

Q7. Is it possible to work in Japan again after returning to my country following the acquisition of a national license?

A7. It is possible to work as an EPA nurse/ care worker in Japan after obtaining the status of residence for designated activities again through introduction by JICWELS and your deploying coordination institution. For acquisition of the status of residence for designated activities, conclusion of the employment contract and other prescribed procedures are required. Please apply to the deploying coordination institution in your country first.

***Regarding to bring your family over, etc. additional procedures may be required to deal with COVID-19 infection. Please be sure to check the latest information from the Immigration Bureau or the website of the Overseas Diplomatic Establishment, etc. when completing the procedure.**

<Inquiries> 9:30~17:30 Monday to Friday

Japan International Corporation of Welfare Services (JICWELS)

- Acceptance Support for Foreign Professional Department TEL: 03-6206-1138
- Consultation desk TEL: 0120-115-311

*English, Indonesian, Vietnamese and Japanese are available