

Thank you to all foreign residents who participated in the classroom!

Multicultural Coexistence

On the 2nd of July, we ran a multicultural coexistence classroom for those working at the city and town offices of Nagasaki Prefecture. At this classroom, the teachers spoke about the current state of regional coexistence, how both foreigners and Japanese can live together by supporting each other, and about the importance of everyone working together and doing what they can to build a society where everyone can feel at ease. Officials unsure of how to best communicate with foreign residents were told "What's most important is showing that you want to know and understand them. If foreign residents feel that you're trying to understand them, then they will open up to you too."

They also spoke about how, when it comes to assisting foreign residents, there is no clear-cut "correct" way of doing things, and that's "why it's so important to always be trying new things and doing what you can to try to build a connection with them."

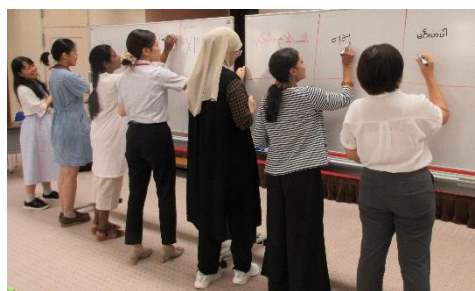
At the workshop that followed, they played some games with foreign residents from six different countries including Myanmar, Nepal, Egypt, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, and Taiwan. Through these games, the participants were able to experience some of the difficulties a foreigner might experience in Japan when they find themselves in situations that challenge their common sense. It allowed them to experience how the foreigners might feel, what sort of things might go wrong, and what they might be able to change or do about it.

At the end, they shared opinions and experiences about what it's like to live in Nagasaki.

Learn! Have fun! Travel the world!

On the 8th of August (Friday), a classroom was held for elementary school students, where they learned about foreign cultures and engaged in face-to-face conversation with foreigners. This year, a total of 5 people from Myanmar, Kazakhstan, India, Korea, and Australia helped run the event. They each introduced some words, foods, and games from their home countries to the children. The curiosity of the children was captured, and their eyes lit up as they learned new things about foreign countries and their cultures.

In one sitting, they had the truly precious experience of coming into contact with the cultures of five different countries and were able to interact directly with people from those countries.



Status of Residence & Common Questions

What is a “status of residence”?

“Status of residence” (also “residence status”, “visa status”, and “immigration status”) refers to the categorization of what activities someone is permitted to undertake as a foreigner in Japan. For example, (Foreign) Student, Technical Intern Training, Dependent, etc. (Reference: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan website)

Common Questions from Foreign Residents

(Reference: CLAIR, “Living in Japan: Frequently Asked Questions (Japanese)”)

A Common Concern regarding International Marriage

Q Two years ago, I married a Japanese man, and we’ve been living together ever since. I’ve gotten used to life in Japan, made friends, and I’ve been enjoying my life here. But, the other day, my husband suddenly passed away. My current status of residence (visa) is “Spouse of Japanese National,” and I’m really worried that I might not be able to continue living here in Japan.

A In Japan, if someone you’re living with or a family member passes away, you are legally required to submit a Notification of Death form to your local municipal office within 7 days of finding out. In the case of a spouse, submission of this form will record your partner as deceased on the family register, and you will no longer qualify to be registered as a “Spouse of Japanese National.” If you wish to remain in Japan, you must update your status of residence to a different type before the end of your designated period of stay in Japan.

If you’ve have been living in Japan for many years, and your lifestyle is heavily rooted in living in Japan, you may be able to update your status of residence to “Long Term Resident.” Unfortunately, in this case, your length of stay in Japan is less than 3 years, which means it may be difficult to update your status of residence and continue living in Japan. However, in certain circumstances such as if any children were had between you and your late husband, they will require someone to look after and care for them, and in such cases, it is best to consult the immigration bureau.

Applying for Permanent Residency

Q I’d like to apply for permanent residency. How long does it take to get your results?

A In Japan, to apply for permanent residency, you must first meet the conditions required to qualify for permanent residency. Please refer to the immigration bureau’s official webpage regarding “Guidelines for Permanent Residence Permits”:
https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/applications/resources/nyukan_nyukan50.html?hl=en (If your page displays in Japanese, you can switch to English with the button in the bottom left.)

When one is awarded a “Permanent Resident” status of residence, restrictions on what one can do in Japan, and how long one may stay, are lifted. Because of this, the screening process is a lot very thorough and careful, and it may take over 6 months for the processing of your application to complete. If your current status of residence is set to expire during the waiting period, please complete the necessary steps to update your status of residence. For more information, please consult the immigration bureau.

Consultation Services for Foreign Residents in Nagasaki Prefecture:

Nagasaki Prefecture Consultation Center for Foreign People

Phone: 095-820-3377

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Closed on Saturday, Sunday, Public Holidays, and New Year’s (29th of December – 3rd of January).

Agency for Consultation on Status of Residence and Other Matters:

Foreign Residents Support Center (FRESC)

The Foreign Residents Support Center (FRESC) is a government office that provides support for foreign residents living and working in Japan. It offers consultation services and assistance.

Phone: 0570-011000

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Closed on Saturday, Sunday, Public Holidays, and New Year’s (29th of December – 3rd of January).

Life Knowledge: Typhoons and Torrential Rainfall



What is a typhoon?

A typhoon is a natural disaster that causes strong winds and heavy rain. Every year, from June until around October, typhoons will approach Japan from the ocean, and may even make it onto the mainland. They are especially common during August and September.

What about torrential rainfall?

Torrential rainfall refers to extremely heavy rain that continuously falls in a localized area, which can result in hundreds of milliliters of rain. It's very easy for torrential rain to occur during the wet and typhoon seasons, so please be careful.

Disasters caused by Typhoons and Torrential Rain

Rivers might overflow... This leads to flooding, which may submerge buildings, or even wash people away.

Landslides can happen... If a landslide happens, dirt, rocks and trees may come down a mountain or cliff at high speeds, which can destroy or even bury entire buildings. Landslides can also cause roads to be blocked and make it difficult or even impossible for emergency services to pass.



What might happen during a typhoon or torrential rain?

- ◆ Electricity may cut out, and access to running water might be lost.
- ◆ Public transportation, such as trains, buses, or planes, may be suspended.
- ◆ It may be difficult or impossible to go places, such as work or school, or even leave the house at all.



How you can be prepared

Check the hazard map!

- Check if your home or workplace is at risk of landslides, or submersion during flooding.
- Locate where your evacuation site is, and check what the evacuation route is.

Prepare emergency goods!

- Prepare 3 days' worth of non-perishable food and drink.
- Prepare a flashlight, batteries, and a mobile battery.
- Also, anything else that you might need, such as a radio, medicine, and sanitary goods.

To best understand how to evacuate safely, please refer to Nagasaki Meteorological Office's multilingual leaflet.



Useful Information

If you require assistance or there's something you don't understand about life in Nagasaki or your status of residence, please reach out to the **Nagasaki Prefecture Consultation Center for Foreign People!**

The **Nagasaki Prefecture Consultation Center for Foreign People** offers services to foreigners who live in Nagasaki Prefecture, providing them with a point of contact they may use when they require assistance. Consultation can take place over the phone, or you may visit for in-person consultation. Interpretation is offered over the phone, allowing for consultation in 22 different languages.

Supported Languages

English, Chinese (Mandarin), Korean, Thai, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Tagalog, Nepali, Portuguese, Spanish, French, German, Italian, Russian, Malay, Burmese, Khmer (Cambodian), Mongolian, Sinhala, Hindi, Bengali, Urdu

Consultation Hours

Monday to Friday
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location

2-11 Dejima-machi, Nagasaki City

Phone: 095-820-3377

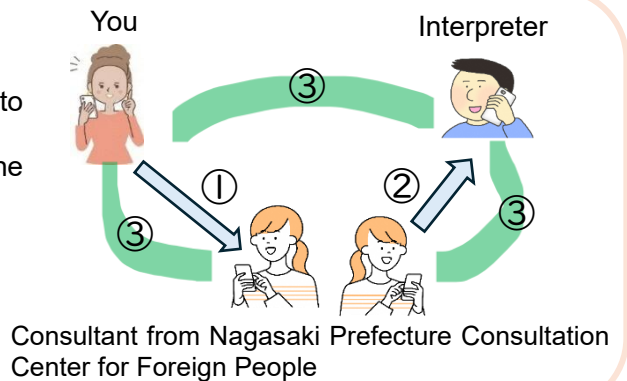
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When seeking consultation over the phone...

1. Call the Consultation Center for Foreign People.
2. The consultant who answers will bring an interpreter into the call.
3. You will now be able to speak with the consultant with the assistance of an interpreter.

It may take a little time before the interpreter is brought into the call.

Please wait patiently and refrain from hanging up.



Specialist consultation conference regarding change of status of residence and administrative processes.

On the 4th Saturday of every month, you will have the opportunity to consult specialists regarding status of residence and other administrative procedures.

Entry of those who have made a reservation will be prioritized.

Please make sure to call and make a reservation.

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Phone: 095-820-3377

Location: 2-11 Dejima-machi, Nagasaki City

《Please confirm details here》



Website



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We support local multiculturalism and international exchange.

Nagasaki International Association

Phone: 095-823-3931

Email: nia@nia.or.jp

Open Hours:

Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



Website



Facebook

Address: 2-11 Dejima-machi, Nagasaki City

Closed: Saturday, Sunday, Public Holidays, New Year's (29th of December – 3rd of January)

Nagasaki Prefecture Consultation Center for Foreign People

Consultation regarding: Status of Residence, Childbirth, Welfare, etc.

Phone: 095-820-3377

Email: soudan@nia.or.jp

Open Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.