

FAQ: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q1. I am a New Zealand citizen but I am currently residing in Australia. Can I apply?

A1. No. the guidelines require that all applicants MUST reside in New Zealand at the time of application.

Q2. What kind of jobs to supplement my travel funds can I do while on a working holiday?

A2. You may do almost any job on a part-time basis as long as the job does not contravene Japanese law regulating businesses offering food and entertainment or affect public order and good morals. For example, some bar work or hostess work will not be allowed.

Q3. How long can I stay in Japan with a working holiday visa?

A3. The visa is valid for up to one year. You can now apply twice and it is up to you whether you wish to return home after several months or spend a whole year in Japan.

Q4. Is there a quota or best time to apply?

A4. There is NO quota limit or designated time of year to apply. Anyone who is eligible may apply for a working holiday at any time.

Q5. What are the requirements for a working holiday visa?

A5. Please see the eligibility criteria. Note that your main purpose is to have a long term holiday to travel around Japan. Therefore, your stay programme must show as much detail as possible of all the places you would like to visit and the activities you would like to engage in. It is not for the purpose of full-time work. You must also have sufficient funds, as you may only work part-time if you can find a job in Japan.

Q6. What is the difference between a work visa and working holiday visa?

A6. A work (student) visa is for the purpose of going to Japan to live and work full-time (study). See CoE application information. A working holiday visa is for a long term holiday travelling around Japan. You may work part-time to help fund your holiday.

Q7. When does my visa start, from issuance date or arrival?

A7. The validity of your visa begins from your date of arrival in Japan, not from the date it was issued.

Q8. I am 30 years old and will be 31 next month. Can I apply?

A8. Yes, but your application must be received **before your 31st birthday**. The visa will be valid for one year from the date of issue so you may have turned 31 by the time you enter Japan.

Q9. Can I send my application?

A9. You must agree to conditions below then email: visa@ac.mofa.go.jp before proceeding with any further steps:

- Must use the trackable courier service
- Must be resides within [our jurisdiction](#) (no exception)
- Our office is not responsible for delay of delivery or loss/damage of passports
- Courier ALL those required documents (including the original passport)
- You must come **IN PERSON** to visit our office to collect you own passport

Q10. The visa application form asks for my "I.D. No. issued to you by your government". What is this?

A10. The governments of some countries give their citizens individual I.D. numbers. However, New Zealand do not so leave this section blank

Q11. The visa application form asks for a guarantor/reference and inviter in Japan. What should I do if I do not have one?

A11. You are not being invited to Japan, so leave a section blank since it doesn't apply to you as Working Holiday Visa Application

Q12. I am uncertain about how to complete certain sections of the application form. Could you please advise me on what to do?

A.12 Leave it blank – It's better to leave a section empty than to guess or write incorrect information

Q13. I would like to apply for my second Working Holiday visa. What steps do I need to take?

- A13.** The process will be exactly the same as your first Working Holiday visa application.
Please note that there is no expedited service, and all visa applications are treated equally, regardless of whether it is your first or second time applying.

Q14. "I'm currently holding a Working Holiday visa and am in Japan. Can I apply for my second Working Holiday visa while in Japan?"

- A14.** You **must be physically in New Zealand** when you submit your second Working Holiday visa application. The process will be exactly the same as the first time.

Q15. Tell me why you rejected my visa application

- A15.** The reason for the rejection is that your application did not meet the criteria of visa issuance. We do not give you the specific reason of the rejection because if we do so, the information would eventually become known to the public. Once that happened, there is a danger that some people might misappropriate such information to get around the visa examination process and try to enter Japan for illegal purposes. It would impede the proper visa examination process in the future and have negative effects on Japanese society. The Administrative Procedure Act, Article 3, Paragraph 1, Item 10 excludes "dispositions concerning departure and immigration of foreign nationals" from application of the obligation to show the examination criteria or the reasons for the rejection of the application.

Q16. Why can't I reapply immediately after my visa application was rejected?

- A16.** We do not accept your visa application if your previous application was rejected and you will apply for the same purpose of visit within six months from the rejection. This is because if, for example, we accept the same application the day after it was rejected, the circumstances of the applicant would not change so that the result of examination would be the same.

Q17. My departure date is approaching so could you issue the visa ASAP?

- A17.** Please note that we do not issue visas based on your flight schedule, and there is no expedited service available.
Therefore, we strongly recommend that you plan well in advance, as you may submit your visa application up to 12 months prior to your intended arrival in Japan.

Q18. I have to return to New Zealand due to unforeseen circumstances. Can I return to Japan and continue my stay?

- A18.** You may return to Japan as long as it is within the validity period of your visa. However, please be aware that **you cannot extend your stay**, even if you did not use the full one-year duration allowed under your visa.