Issuance of Recommendation Letters and Applying for a Visa to stay in Japan for Job Hunting after Graduation

For postgraduate students scheduled to graduate in September 2026

For international students looking for work in Japan who would like to continue their job-hunting activities after graduation, there is a visa (status of residence) specifically for that purpose. However, a recommendation letter from the university is required to apply for this status of residence. The process for obtaining the recommendation letter is outlined below.

1. Eligibility Criteria for Applying for the Recommendation Letter

1) Scheduled to graduate September 2026
2) Actively engaged in job hunting with companies in Japan and have relevant records of such activities
3) Have not yet received a formal job offer (naitei) or informal offer from a Japanese company
4) Have a strong intention to continue job hunting in Japan after graduation and possess a concrete job-hunting plan.
5) Possess some level of Japanese proficiency (preferably at least daily conversation level)
6) Have no financial difficulties after graduation and be in a position to fully devote themselves to job hunting.
7) No history of serious misconduct during their enrollment.
   The university will verify whether you have any disciplinary record (such as unlicensed driving, theft, cheating, damage/loss of university property, etc.), including the details and frequency of any incidents.

2. Required Documents for Applying for the Recommendation Letter

Application Form: Recommendation Letter Application for Designated Activities Visa: Graduate Students 09.2026 (the application form opens on June 15)
Required Documents (to upload to the application form):

1) Written Oath for the Recommendation Letter Application Form (PDF)
2) Transcript of Academic Records (issued from the Automatic Certificate Dispenser)
3) Certificate of Prospective Completion (issued from the Automatic Certificate Dispenser)
4) Document verifying your bank account balance and accountholder name
   *If you do not have a physical bankbook, please submit an account statement from your bank or a digital statement downloaded from your bank app.
5) Proof of job hunting
   a) Copies of e-mails/ correspondence from companies
   b) English CV or Japanese Rirekisho

3. Schedule for Issuing the Recommendation Period for September 2026 Graduates

Stage	Date
Application Period	**From 10:00 on June 15, 2026 to 14:00 on July 5, 2026**
Job-hunting Visa Guidance	June 18 16:10-16:40 @ J201
Announcement of Document Screening Results and Interview Schedule (for those who passed the document screening)	July 27, 2026
Interview Period	July 30 & July 31, 2026*[1]
Announcement of Final Screening Results	August 5, 2026
Issuance of Recommendation Letter	Early September

***[1]The interview date and time will be designated by the university.**

Applicants are requested to keep their schedules available on the designated two days.

4. Procedures for Changing Status of Residence after Receiving the Recommendation Letter

1) After receiving the recommendation letter from the university, please prepare to apply to the Immigration Bureau.
2) Prepare all documents required for the application. For details, please refer to the Ministry of Justice website.
3) **Apply for the change in status of residence with the Immigration Bureau in person.** Be sure to apply while your current "student visa" is still valid, not after it has expired!
4) Wait for a postcard from the Immigration Bureau regarding your application result. If you are granted a "designated activities visa", this will allow you to stay in Japan for a maximum of 6 months post-graduation.
5) Regularly report to the Student Office about your job-hunting activities after graduation. If you receive a job offer or there is any other change in your status, make sure that you inform the Student Office immediately.

≪**Caution!**≫

- **Only one recommendation letter will be issued to each student.**
- **Having the recommendation letter from the university does not guarantee that you will receive the "designated activities" visa.**