

Hello, this is ISD. Here's our monthly newsletter for international students. 2025 is almost over! In Japan, we often say "Clean up this year's clutter this year." It's a tradition to start the new year fresh and clean! Want to give it a go?



Job Offer secured for April? Apply for Change of Status from "Student" to "Work" by end of January!

Normally, applications to change residence status starts 3 months beforehand. However, Immigrations say that if you have a job starting in April, they will accept applications between December and the end of January to avoid delays caused from high demand. Apply early! See [details on Immigration Bureau site](#). If you're changing to "Engineer / Specialist in Humanities / International Services" or "Researcher," you can skip some documents by submitting an [explanation sheet](#) (Jap).

Japan's year-end and New Year holidays come with lots of changes — be careful!

During Japan's year-end and New Year holidays, office hours of ward offices and hospitals, bank fees, and train schedules change. Please check in advance. Garbage collection days also change! In Chiba City, there will be no collection from Sunday, Dec 28th to Sunday, Jan 4th. Please keep your garbage indoors during this period. **The ISD office will also be closed from December 27 to January 4.**

For those seeking employment in Japan

The Career Support Div. has a [website for international students](#) →.

You can find information and advice about Japan's unique job-hunting process. We also recommend the [seminar video \(in English\) given last year by Prof. Kou](#) (Faculty of Horticulture)



Prof. Kou

J-PAC Program Exchange Students went on Home Visit!

J-Pac students visited families of Chiba University's affiliated school students — a joyful exchange full of smiles and first-time experiences beyond campus!



Anna & Lea enjoy tea and sweets during their visit

Exemption procedures for NHK reception fees"

If you're a regular student or receiving a scholarship, you can apply to have your NHK reception fee waived. Check [NHK's website](#) (Japanese) for details on how to apply.

New Year International Friendship Event

Traditional Japanese Culture Workshop

Chiba University International Students are given priority
See [Details and sign up from Flyer](#)

Original Kyogen traditional comic play "Yabushirazu"

Students of the Liberal Arts course "Creating Traditional Culture" will hold a paid performance created together with professional Kyogen actors. It's a rare opportunity to see an authentic Noh stage! Date: Sunday, Dec 28th 14:00
For details please check [FLYER](#) (Japanese)

Special Re-entry Permit

If you leave Japan temporarily and return within one year, you can use the Special Re-entry Permit — no re-entry procedures needed. If your visa expires within a year, the deadline to return is that date. Check 'I am leaving temporarily and will return' on the embarkation card. See [sample on Immigration website](#)

About the Certificate of Eligibility for National Health Insurance

Students without My Number health insurance cards can use the Eligibility Certificate for medical visits. Paper Health Insurance cards expire at the end of March, but the Eligibility certificate (Shikakukuninsho) remains valid—always bring it with you to see the doctor. If you're staying over a year, apply for a My Number card for convenience.

Internship & Career Discovery Web Fair for International Students

An online joint company seminar featuring companies that are eager to meet international students. The program also includes topics like business etiquette and candid talks from foreign employees."

★December 20th (sat) 12:00-17:30

Format : Online

Details, registration : [Here](#)

Job seeking seminar by Mynabi for International students

Participating companies will differ between dates.

★2026.March 4th (wed) 13:00-17:00

Format: Live Venue: Tokyo Metropolitan Industrial Trade Center Hamamatsucho-kan

Details, registration: [HERE](#)

★2026.March 10th (tue) 12:00-17:00

Format: Online

Details, registration : [HERE](#)

Notice from the Immigration Services Agency

The Immigration offices will be closed from Dec 27 (Sat) to Jan 4 (Sun). When returning to Japan from abroad, do NOT bring food with meat, fruits, or vegetables. These will be confiscated at the airport. [See details](#).