

Q&A on the Implementation of the Business Startup Program for Foreign Nationals in the Sendai City Program Certified by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

Question 1: Who is eligible to utilize it?

Answer:

This is a project (scheme) by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry which aims to enhance the international competitiveness of industries and form a base for international economic activities in Japan. Foreign nationals starting a new business in Sendai City are eligible for the program. Applicants must fulfill academic or professional prerequisites

Question 2: What is different from startup visa of the specific zone system that it was being put into effect up to now?

Answer:

The main differences are listed below:

- (1) The start-up visa in the special zone system is for a period of 6 months, and the start-up visa system for this scheme is a maximum of 2 years.
- (2) The start-up visa in the special zone system cannot be changed from another resident status, but this start-up visa system allows the resident status change from "Student" etc. without returning to their homeland once.
- (3) The start-up visa in the special zone system has a resident status of "Business Manager" and this start-up visa system must have a resident status of "Designated Activities"

Question 3: I already have another type of status of residence, but am planning to start a new business. Am I eligible to use this scheme?

Answer:

This system differs in that it is possible for applicants to change their status of residence from "student", "professor", and "researcher". There are fixed conditions, so please inquire at the Sendai Regional Immigration Bureau beforehand.

Question 4: Is there any difference between the "Business Management" visa (for 6 months)'s activity granted by the start-up visa in the special zone system and the "Designated Activity" visa's activity granted by this system?

Answer:

There is no difference in the area where you can come into action basically. Activities

outside of the applicant's qualification are not allowed in principle too. Please ask the Sendai Regional Immigration Bureau for more information.

Inquiries:

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