

Use of “Individual Number Card” as Health Insurance Card

Dear international students,

As some of you may already know, new “Health insurance cards” will no longer be issued after December 2, 2024.

Your existing health insurance cards can be used for up to one year until their expiration date.

From now on, you can use your “Individual Number Card” as a health insurance card at medical institutions and pharmacies by registering it as a health insurance card.

When using it, you will be checked in with a card reader with facial recognition. By using a card reader with facial recognition, you can receive better medical care by performing more accurate identity verification and obtaining consent to provide past medical information.

■ For information on creating an Individual Number Card, please see here:
Individual Number Card General Site (multilingual support)

<https://www.kojinbango-card.go.jp/apprec/>

*Please note that it takes about one and a half months from application to arrival.

■ Using Individual Number Card as Health Insurance Card: Digital Agency (English available)

<https://www.digital.go.jp/policies/mynumber/insurance-card>

For the time being, all those who do not have an Individual Number Card (who have not registered their Individual Number Card for use as a health insurance card) will be issued an “Eligibility Confirmation Letter” free of charge and without the need to apply for it during the validity period of their current health insurance card.

When you receive the “Eligibility Confirmation Letter” at home, please keep it safe.

The "Eligibility Confirmation Letter" will take on the role of the current health insurance card at medical institutions and pharmacies.

■ Confirmation of Qualification (Method of Medical Examination Other than Minor Insurance Card): Digital Agency (available in English)

<https://www.digital.go.jp/policies/mynumber/insurance-card/optional-insured-status>

Please note that if you renew your residence card, you will also need to renew your Individual Number Card.

■ Get an Individual Number Card and live a convenient life!: Immigration Services Agency (available in multiple languages)

<https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/support/portal/mynumbercard.html>

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