

The Choice of Nationality

If you are a person of dual nationality, please make the choice of nationality!

A Japanese national having a foreign nationality (a person of dual nationality) shall choose either of the nationalities before he or she reaches twenty- two years of age (or within two years after the day when he or she acquired the second nationality if he or she acquired such nationality after the day when he or she reached twenty years of age). If he or she fails to choose either of the nationalities, he or she may lose Japanese nationality. So, please don't forget the choice of nationality.

THE NATIONALITY LAW: Article 14. Choice of nationalities

<http://www.moj.go.jp/ENGLISH/information/tnl-01.html>

The Choice of Nationality

<http://www.moj.go.jp/ENGLISH/information/tcon-01.html>

Declaration to Choose Japanese nationality

[Informant]

A person who intends to choose Japanese nationality

- ※ Personal appearance of the informant is a must. (no representative will be allowed)
- ※ Legal representative if the informant is below 15 years old (parental authority, etc.)

[Requirements] (All original except unless stated otherwise)

- (1) Notification of Choosing of Nationality: 2 pcs (obtained from Embassy of Japan in Manila)
- (2) Family Register KOSEKI TOHON : 2 pcs original
- (3) Photo ID, e.g., Passport, Driver's License, or SSS of the informant
- (4) Seal (if none, thumb mark)

[Notification period]

(1) A Japanese national who has become a dual nationality after January 1, 1985 (after the implementation of the Revised Nationality Law)

- (a) if he/she has becomes a dual nationality before he/she reached twenty years of age → notification must be done before he/she reaches twenty-two years of age
- (b) if he/she becomes a dual nationality after he/she reached twenty years of age → notification must be done within two (2) years after he/she acquired dual nationality

If a person fail to make the choice of nationality within the above-stated period, that person may be required by the Minister of Justice to choose one of the nationalities he possesses, and in some cases, he/she may lose his Japanese nationality.

(2) A Japanese national who has become a dual nationality before January 1, 1985 (before the implementation of the Revised Nationality Law)

if he/she is under twenty years of age on January 1, 1985 → notification must be done before he/she reaches twenty-two years of age

If a person fail to make the choice of nationality within the above-stated period, that person shall be deemed to have made a declaration in which he swears that he choose to be a Japanese national and that he renounce the foreign nationality, at the time of the expiration of such period.