

Acquisition of Japanese Nationality by acknowledgement of Japanese Father

(Under Article 3 of the Amended Japan Nationality Law)

Those who are **under 18 years of age***, born as an illegitimate child of a Japanese father and eventually duly acknowledged by his/ her Japanese father will be able to acquire Japanese Nationality.

* In accordance to the revision of law lowering the age of majority, the notification deadline was changed from “under 20 years old” to “under 18 years old” on April 1, 2022. For transitional matters and other inquiries regarding this matter, please check the website of the Ministry of Justice (in Japanese) (<https://www.moj.go.jp/MINJI/minji78.html#a18>), or inquire to the Embassy of Japan in the Philippines.

Qualifications for Acquiring Nationality

- Candidates are required to have the following qualifications:
 - he/she has been duly acknowledged by his/her Japanese father and the acknowledgement is stipulated in the Family Registry [koseki tohon] of his /her Japanese father;
 - he/she is **under 18 years old***;
 - he/she has never been a Japanese national; and
 - his/her father was a Japanese national at the time of his/her birth
- father should presently be a Japanese national (if deceased, the father should have been a Japanese national at the time of death).

Procedure on Filing Acknowledgement (at the Embassy of Japan in the Philippines)

- 1) Informant: The Japanese father is required to appear personally (cannot be processed by a representative)
- 2) Requirements

1	Duly accomplished and signed acknowledgement report form available at the Embassy of Japan, Manila.	2 forms
2	Family register [koseki tohon] of acknowledging Japanese father (or certificate of all articles on family register [zenbujiko shomeisho])	1original & 1photocopy
3	Certified true copy of child’s birth certificate and its Japanese translation (from PSA or civil registrar)	1original & 1photocopy each
4	Certified true copy of the mother’s birth certificate and its Japanese translation (from PSA or civil registrar)	1original & 1photocopy each
5	Mother’s PSA issued Certificate of Non- record of Marriage: CENOMAR and its Japanese translation ※to confirm the marital status of the mother from the time of child’s conception until birth ※All details that appears in the CENOMAR of the mother (name of the mother and her parents, birthday, and birthplace) must strictly follow the same information and spelling in the Birth Certificate of the mother.	1original & 1photocopy each
6	Original valid identification card with photo (e.g. Passport) of the father	

※Other documents may also be required when deemed necessary.

Procedure on Filing the Report of Acquiring Japanese Nationality (at the Embassy of Japan in the Philippines)

- 1) Informant:
If the applicant is 15 years old and above, personal appearance of the applicant, if the applicant is under 15 years of age, personal appearance of his or her designated parental authorities (parents and others) . Informants are required to appear personally.

2) Requirements

<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Duly accomplished acquisition of nationality report form available at the Embassy of Japan	2 forms
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Japanese father's family register from the time of his birth up to the present 「koseki tohon」 「kaiseigen koseki tohon: family registry before revision」 「joseki tohon : removed family registry」 or 「zenbujiko shomeisho: certificate of all articles on family register」 ※ It is necessary to submit all copies of the family register from the time of birth of the acknowledging Japanese father (family register either of the parents, or of the grandfather, who is the head of the household and the date of the formation of the family register was earlier than the report of birth of the acknowledging father) up to the present.	1 original & 1 photocopy each
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Certified true copy of child's birth certificate and its Japanese translation (from PSA or civil registrar)	1 original & 1 photocopy each
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Child's Certificate of Residency issued by the Barangay office where the child is presently residing and its Japanese translation	1 original & 1 photocopy each
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Certified true copy of the mother's birth certificate and its Japanese translation (from PSA or civil registrar)	1 original & 1 photocopy each
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	Mother's PSA issued Certificate of Non- record of Marriage: CENOMAR and its Japanese translation ※to confirm the marital status of the mother from the time of child's conception until birth ※All details that appears in the CENOMAR of the mother (name of the mother and her parents, birthday, and birthplace) must strictly be the same as the information and spelling in the Birth Certificate of the mother.	1 original & 1 photocopy each
<input type="checkbox"/> 7	Proof of the parents' travel history during the period of the mother's pregnancy e.g. 1)passport bearing the exit/entry stamps of the stated period (2 sets of photocopy of all the pages. the original passport should be exhibited at the window) or 2)Certificate of Travel Record issued by the Bureau of Immigration of the Philippines or Japan and its Japanese translation (1 set of original & 1 set of photocopy each.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 8	Written Affidavit with the following contents from both parents (and its Japanese translation -if not written in Japanese): A. narrative summary on how the parents got acquainted B. narrative summary of their relationship up to the time of the child's birth C. narrative summary of their relationship from the child's birth up to the time of acknowledgement D. narrative summary of their relationship from the child's acknowledgement up to the present (including the fact if the father and child are living together; who is supporting the child) E. history of marriage and present civil status F. signature and date	1 set of original & 1 set of photocopy each
<input type="checkbox"/> 9	Photo, 5cm x 5cm, taken within the last 6 months (please write the date when the photo was taken at the back of the photo) A. If the child is under 15years of age, the photo must be taken together with his or her designated parental authorities (both parents if they are married and if not married, with the mother) B. If the child is 15 years old and above, he/she must be in the photo alone	2 originals
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	Original valid identification card with photo (e.g. Passport, National ID, School ID, Driver's license, SSS ID)	

※ Other documents may also be required when deemed necessary

※ If the acknowledgement of the child was decided by court, only the family register from the time of the child's birth will be required (for 1), also, requirements 5 – 8 are not necessary.

※ For siblings applying at the same time, 1 original and 1 photocopy of the common requirements is sufficient.

◎Please be guided that once a report is filed in the Embassy, withdrawal of the filed report is not allowed.

◎False notifications of parental acknowledgement or of nationality acquisition may be subject to punishment.

The Ministry of Justice will notify the Embassy of Japan of the result of the Acquisition of Japanese Nationality, in turn, the Embassy will notify the applicant. Should nationality be granted, a separate procedure for registration (report) in the family registry is necessary.