

## **A message from Tohoku University to everyone who is planning to temporarily return to their home country**

Currently, the Japanese Government has put in place “Avoid All Travel” and “Avoid All Non-Essential Travel” warnings with respect to countries around the world, and the number of countries and regions in which mutant strains of the coronavirus have been confirmed is increasing. Tohoku University will continue to request that unnecessary and non-urgent overseas travel (including private travel) be canceled regardless of the destination country or region.

If you are considering a temporary return to your home country for unavoidable reasons (such as attendance at family events, long-term care necessities, etc.), please refer to the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan to see if you meet the requirements for re-entry and whether your home country or region is in a position to refuse you entry. Also, please check if you can take a test for the coronavirus in your home country. If you wish to return to your home country temporarily or to re-enter Japan, please be sure to consult with your department director in advance through your academic advisor or another faculty member who can help you with your affairs, and obtain permission to travel.

The Government of Japan has decided to allow those with resident status who have departed Japan to re-enter Japan if they have a re-entry permit (including special re-entry permits), regardless of the date on which they depart, if they have completed the prescribed procedures.

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan Website: Re-entry of foreign nationals with the status of residence*  
(English) [https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page4e\\_001074.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page4e_001074.html)

On the other hand, there has been confirmation that mutant strains of the coronavirus have been detected in a number of countries. This has led to a state of emergency being declared in Japan and border control measures being strengthened. Please check the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ website below for details of the quarantine rules.

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan Website: Border enforcement measures to prevent the spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19)*  
(English) [https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page4e\\_001053.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page4e_001053.html)

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan Website: Valid Format of “Certificate of Negative Test Result”*  
(English) [https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page25e\\_000334.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page25e_000334.html)

If your department director approves your temporary return to your home country or your re-entry to Japan, please submit the following information to the person in charge within your department:

Required information: purpose of trip, duration of trip, current place of residence in Japan, place of residence after re-entry to Japan, where you will stay for 14 days after re-entry, etc.

When re-entering Japan, please follow the quarantine rules established by the Japanese government. Please remember to always check the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ website above for details of the quarantine rules and to obtain the most up-to-date information.

Since the health observation period is 14 days from the day after the date on which you enter Japan, you will need to reserve accommodation for 15 nights/16 days.

You can spend the quarantine period at your home as well as at a hotel, but please note that you cannot use the university’s student dormitories or staff dormitories to do so.

Please note that there is a possibility that you may not be able to re-enter Japan when you wish to do so, as it will depend on whether you test positive for the coronavirus when you are leaving your home country, on the quarantine system at the airport at which you arrive, and on changes that may be made to the Japanese government's border measures.