

To proxies of applicants: Please pass this document to the owner of the license with the translation.

Information on the Japanese Translation

Japanese Translation of Foreign Driver's License

Japan Automobile Federation (JAF) publishes Japanese translations of foreign licenses at its branches nationwide, as designated by the National Public Safety Commission. The Japanese translation can be used for the following purposes.

1, Use the translation as a necessary document at the Driver's License Center when switching from a foreign driver's license to a Japanese driver's license

A driver's license issued by a foreign administrative office can be switched to a Japanese license (hereinafter referred to as "Gaimen Kirikae") by applying to the Driver's License Center.

To apply for Gaimen Kirikae, applicants must fulfill the following two conditions:

1. The applicant's foreign driver's license must be valid (expired licenses cannot be transferred).
2. The applicant must be able to prove that he or she stayed in the issuing country for at least three months in total after obtaining the license.

2, Drive in Japan by carrying both original driver's license issued in Switzerland, Germany, France, Belgium, Monaco, Taiwan, and a Japanese Translation of such issued by JAF.

The Road Traffic Law stipulates that individuals with driver's licenses issued in the above countries/regions are allowed to drive vehicles complying with Japanese laws and regulations only when they carry both the original license issued in the above countries/regions and a Japanese Translation of such issued by JAF, or foreign embassies or consular offices in Japan.

- Those who drive vehicles in Japan must carry the Japanese Translation of the license with them at all times, together with the original driver's license issued in the countries/region above.
- The effective period of the Japanese Translation is one year from the date of entry into Japan. (For re-entry after leaving Japan, the effective period is one year from the date of re-entry.) However, conditions vary for those who registers as a resident or as a foreign national in Japan, leaves and reenters this country within three months. For details, please contact the Driver's License Center that has jurisdiction over the region where you reside.
- When you are driving, police may request that you present your passport to check the days elapsed from your entry into Japan.
- You are not allowed to drive vehicles in Japan beyond one year from your entry into Japan, even if the Japanese Translation is attached to your license.
- Those who intend to stay in Japan for a long period and drive are recommended to obtain a Japanese driver's license. You can apply to switch your current license to a Japanese driver's license if you have the Japanese Translation. For details, please contact the Driver's License Center that has jurisdiction over the region where you reside.

※For the details of Gaimen Kirikae, please contact the Driver's License Center that has jurisdiction over the region in which you reside.)

※Please note that JAF is not able to issue the translation of a foreign driver's license in certain cases. In addition to JAF, some foreign embassies and consular offices in Japan may issue the Japanese Translation of driver's licenses.

Application for Japanese Translation

【How to apply】

Translation requests can be made via our dedicated website.

1, Apply online

<https://english.jaf.or.jp/driving-in-japan/drive-in-japan/about-dltas>



You can apply online by checking the precautions for online application from the link above and entering the information on the " Foreign Driver's License Translation Application Site".

< Documents required >

① **Image data of the front and back of a currently valid foreign driver's license :**

For the following countries (1) and (2), documents supplementing the information on the driver's license are required.

(1) Image data of Fukuye is only required for license issued by People's Republic of China.

(2) For Republic of the Philippines licenses, license number and image data of the official receipt or certificate issued by the Philippine Land Transport Office (LTO) showing the license.

② **Image data of documents required by country :**

This is only required for the following cases (1) to (3)

(1) Syrian Arab Republic driver's license: Image data of Passport

(2) A driver's license issued in certain countries, including the Republic of Korea, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Union of Myanmar: Image data of Residence Card or Resident Record

(3) A driver's license other than (1) and (2) above, written in Arabic: Image data of Residence Card or Resident Record

※Please note that applications from overseas and printing of translations overseas are not supported.

< Issuance fee >

6,000 yen per translation (Credit card payment and cash payment at convenience stores are accepted.)

※Please note that JAF will not refund the translation issuance fee even if the application for Gaimen Kirikae is rejected by the Driver's License Center. A fee of 4,000 yen is also charged for re-issuance when the license is lost or for other reason.

※Printing at a convenience store requires a prescribed printing fee (20 yen per page) prescribed by the Net Print Service. Please note that depending on the driver's license you have, an "attachment" may be printed in addition to the translation itself.

< Days required for issuance >

About 1 to 2 weeks. The processing time varies depending on the issuing country, condition, content of the driver's license, and JAF Branch Office. For details, please contact your nearest Branch Office in advance.

※about two to three weeks to obtain translations for the driver's licenses listed in ②. of "Documents required".

2, Others

• We do not translate anything other than driver's licenses. Please also note that we do not translate international driver's licenses or digital driver's licenses. The "Japanese translation" is the same as the expiration date of the driver's license that was translated. However, you will need to renew your driver's license or if there is a change in the information (such as a change of address).

【JAF General Information Service Center】

▶ TEL 0570-00-2811 (available in English)

Hours: 9:00 - 17:30, closed on year-end and new-year holidays.

Requires communication charges (9.35 yen per 3 minutes for fixed telephone and 11 yen every 20 seconds for mobile phone, 10 yen every 40 seconds for public telephones). If you make a call from a mobile phone, this is not subject to a free call included in the basic use charge. If you cannot use 0570 service above, please make a call to 048-840-0036.I

※About Handling of Personal Information

For the handling of personal information, please refer to "terms of service" and "handling of personal information."

"Terms of service" and "handling of personal information."

