

Outline of the Act on the Accrediting of Japanese-Language Institutes to Ensure Appropriate and Reliable Implementation of Japanese-Language Education

Purpose

The Act creates a system for accrediting Japanese-language institutes that meet certain requirements, and makes arrangements concerning the qualifications of teachers providing Japanese-language education at those institutes, in order to help ensure the appropriate and reliable implementation of Japanese-language education, and in doing so contribute to the development of an environment in which foreign nationals residing in Japan can live in harmony with its people in their public and private lives.

Effective Date

April 1, 2024 (Transitional measures will be established concerning the credentialing of teachers at accredited Japanese-language teachers and related matters)

1. Creation of a system of accreditation for Japanese-language institutes

(1) Accreditation system for Japanese-language institutes

○ The operator of an educational institution offering Japanese language courses may obtain accreditation from the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology as a Japanese-language institute that is capable of implementing Japanese language courses appropriately and reliably.

(2) Effect of accreditation; related matters

○ The Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology will make information on accredited Japanese-language institutes public in multiple languages, over the Internet and by other means.

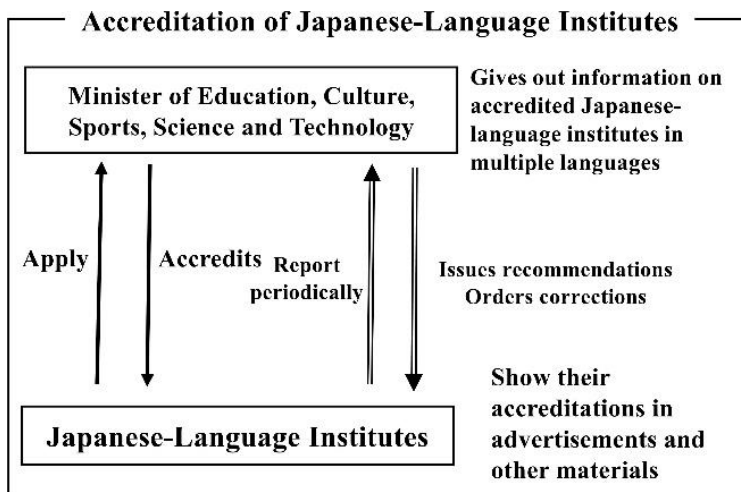
○ The operator of an accredited Japanese-language institute will be permitted to make the representations specified by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in its advertisements and other student-recruitment materials.

(3) Multi-tiered corrective measures by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

○ The Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology will be entitled to ask for reports on the implementation status of Japanese language education when necessary, and will also be entitled to make recommendations and issue corrective orders.

* - Discusses accreditation standards with the Minister of Justice

-The Act provides for cooperation between the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and the Minister of Justice and heads of other relevant administrative organs.



Discuss



Minister of Justice



* Discussion of accreditation standards (ministerial order)

Cooperate



Minister of Justice and heads of other relevant administrative agencies



* Cooperation to ensure mutual coordination in order to ensure the appropriate and reliable implementation of Japanese-language instruction in accredited institutes

2. Creation of credentialing for teachers at accredited Japanese-language institutes

- A person who has passed an examination that tests the knowledge and skills that a person needs to have in order to teach the Japanese language at an accredited Japanese-language institute (the "Japanese-Language Teacher Examination"), and who has completed the practical training conducted by an organization registered by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (a "registered practical training organization") will be entitled to be registered by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology as a "registered Japanese-language teacher".
- The Japanese-Language Teacher Examination consists of a *fundamental competence exam* (to evaluate fundamental knowledge and skills) and an *applied competence exam* (to evaluate application-related knowledge and skills), and is administered by an organization designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (a "designated examining board").
- **Examinees who have completed a training course conducted by a training institute for Japanese-language teachers that has been registered by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (a "registered training institute for Japanese-language teachers") will be exempted from the fundamental competence exam, if they apply.**

