

Specified Residence Card — FAQ

Frequently asked questions about the **特定在留カード** (Residence Card + My Number Card in one)

Q1**What is the Specified Residence Card?**

A single IC-chip card combining your Residence Card and My Number Card. It legally counts as a Residence Card and is also deemed a My Number Card, so one card does both jobs.

Q2**When does it start, and do I have to switch?**

The system starts on June 14, 2026 (applications at immigration bureaus from June 15). Switching is entirely optional — you may keep two separate cards.

Q3**Who can apply?**

Mid- to long-term residents and Special Permanent Residents who are recorded in the Basic Resident Register (registered at their municipality).

Q4**How do I apply?**

It cannot be filed on its own — you submit it together with another procedure: a residence procedure at the Immigration Bureau (extension, change of status, etc.) or a moving-in / address notification at your city office. See the three pattern guides for each route.

Q5**Can I apply online?**

No. For now online visa filing is not supported — choosing online gets you a standard card. You must apply in person at the counter.

Q6**How long does it take to receive?**

About 2 weeks — roughly 10 days longer than a standard card. It is not issued the same day.

Q7**What do I need to bring?**

The Specified Residence Card application form, the PIN-setting request form, one photo (within 6 months), plus your passport and current Residence Card. Forms:

[moj.go.jp/isa/tokutei.html](https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/tokutei.html)

Q8

I don't have a My Number Card yet — can I still get it?

Yes. You receive the My Number functionality together with the Specified Residence Card, so you don't need to obtain a separate My Number Card first. You must be registered as a resident.

Q9

What happens to my current Residence Card and My Number Card?

They are replaced and become invalid — collected in exchange when you pick up the new card. You keep using your current cards until then, so there is no gap where you are left without one.

Q10

How much does it cost?

Often free if this is your first switch on/after June 14, 2026 using your current card. A stand-alone “switch-only” route normally has fees: Immigration ¥1,900 + J-LIS ¥600 (¥800 with electronic certificate). Confirm at the window.

Q11

Does the card expire?

Its My Number function expires on your period-of-stay end date. When you extend your stay, renew the card in time to keep using Myna health insurance. As it is legally a Residence Card, the carry-at-all-times duty applies.

Q12

Can I switch back to two separate cards later?

Yes. You can return the Specified Residence Card and receive a standard Residence Card. At each renewal you can choose whether to keep it combined or separate.

Q13

I'm a new arrival — do I get it at the airport?

No. At the airport you receive a standard Residence Card. The combined card comes later, via a residence or address procedure once you are registered at your municipality.

Q14

Can I use it as Myna Health Insurance or a Myna Driver's License?

It works as Myna Health Insurance. It can also serve as a Myna Driver's License, but existing licence data is not carried over automatically — re-register at a police station if needed.