May 1, 2020

Immigration Services Agency

Regarding "justifiable reason" for exclusion from revocation of residence status for foreign nationals unable to engage in activity corresponding to their status of residence due to effects of COVID-19 pandemic

Foreign nationals with the status of residence listed in the left-hand column of Appended Table I of the Immigration Control Act ("Engineer, Specialist in Humanities, International Services," "Skilled Labor," "Student," etc.) who have failed to continue to engage in the activity corresponding to their residence status for three months or more are not at risk of revocation of status of residence if they have a justifiable reason for not engaging in said activity.

In regard to this point, if a foreign national is unable to engage in the activity corresponding to their residence status for three months due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and related countermeasures, cases such as the following may be considered as having "justifiable reason" and as such the residence status would not be revoked.

① Your employer has had a business slump (or has refrained from business operations) and has been forced to temporarily close.

② After resigning from your previous post, you are engaging in job hunting activities online, etc., or you have found a prospective employer, but you are unable to visit the company.

③ The educational institution you attend has temporarily closed (including cases where the educational institution you intended to transfer to has temporarily closed.)

④ After the permanent closure of the educational institution you previously attended, you are unable to prepare the necessary documents in order to transfer to a different educational institution.

⑤ In order to receive treatment for COVID-19 you are hospitalized, and face a prolonged absence from school.