



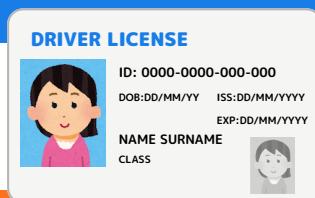
I have a license issued from another country. Will I be able to convert it to a Japanese license while I am in Hokkaido?

Yes, if you meet the following conditions, you can convert your foreign license to a Japanese license in Hokkaido.



1. You have an address within Hokkaido.
2. You continuously resided in the country that issued the license for 3 or more months after receiving the license, and can show proof of this.
3. The foreign license is still valid.

**CAUTION**



- **It is often difficult for people to gather proof that they remained in their country for 3 months after receiving their license.** Please try and gather as many forms of proof as possible.  
(Ex: Immigration Record, Driving Record, Rental Contract, Academic Enrollment Record, Employment Record, etc)
- **The application process depends on location, so be sure to confirm at the Driver's License Test Center which has jurisdiction over your address** for more information.  
(Driver's License Test Centers are located in: Sapporo, Hakodate, Asahikawa, Obihiro, Kushiro, and Kitami.)
- **Depending on the country the license was issued in, the mandatory documents and procedures may vary,** so make sure to double check the requirements.
- **The Driver's License Test Centers are very busy,** so the wait for an appointment can sometimes exceed 6 months. Once you have gathered the required documents, try and make your appointment as promptly as possible.
- **Appointments must be made over the phone. The staff only speak Japanese,** so if you have trouble making the call in Japanese, please contact the Hokkaido Foreign Resident Support Center for help.



[Switching to a Japanese License](#)

【Hokkaido Police HP】



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【Japan Automobile Federation (JAF) HP】