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I graduated from a Japanese university in March, and have been working as an employee at a Japanese company since April. After completing the enrollment procedures for the Employees' Pension at my company, I received a notice from the pension office stating that **I had not paid my National Pension contributions for two years.** I thought I was exempt from paying National Pension contributions while I was a student, so why did I receive this notification?

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All residents of Japan, regardless of their nationality, become insured under the National Pension system from the time they turn 20 and are required to pay contributions. Students can use the "Special Payment System for Students" to postpone payment of these contributions while enrolled in school, but they must complete an application. If you did not apply for a postponement while you were a student, the contributions for those two years would be considered unpaid.

You can retroactively apply for the "Special Payment System" for up to two years from the due date of the insurance premium payment (the period from application to two years and one month before). You can apply at the National Pension Section of your local municipal office, the pension office, or your school. Please refer to the Japanese Pension Service website for details.



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Points to Note

- In principle, regardless of the application date, applications for the "Special Payment System for Students" will be reviewed for the period from April to March of the following year (or from April of the previous year to March for applications made between January and March). Therefore, **it is necessary to apply for each academic year.** Please note that while it is possible to apply for multiple academic years at the same time, you must submit a separate application form for each year.
- Any unpaid premiums that are **more than two years past the due date cannot be paid due to the statute of limitations.**
- **Any outstanding payments may affect future immigration procedures** such as renewal of your period of stay or application for permanent residence.



References

[Application for Special Payment System for Students](#)

Japan Pension Service

Available languages:

15 languages including Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Indonesian, Thai, Burmese, and Spanish.



Inquiries

[Multilingual telephone consultation service](#)

Japan Pension Service

Available languages:

English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Thai, Nepalese.

