

April 1, 2026

Food Service Industry Specified Skilled Worker (i) Test: **Guide to Domestic Tests**

1. Regarding the Food Service Industry Specified Skilled Worker (i) Test

The “Specified Skilled Worker” program is a system designed to accept foreign workers with specialized skills to fill job vacancies in sectors such as the food service industry, where there is a shortage of workers in Japan.

To obtain the “Food Service Industry Specified Skilled Worker (i)” status of residence, you must pass both the “Food Service Industry Food Service Industry Specified Skilled Worker (i) Test” and the “Japanese Language Test.”

The Japanese language tests include the “Japanese Foundation Test (JFT-Basic)” administered by The Japan Foundation, and the “Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT)” administered jointly by The Japan Foundation and the Japan Educational Exchanges and Services.

The “Food Service Industry Specified Skilled Worker (i) Test” (hereinafter referred to as the “test”) is administered by the Organization for Technical Skill Assessment of Foreign Workers in Food Industry (OTAFF).

If you would like to learn more about applying for the “Specified Skilled Worker” status of residence, please contact the Immigration Services Agency of Japan, the Ministry of Justice.

For inquiries regarding matters other than the Food Service Industry Specified Skilled Worker (i) Test and the Food and Beverage Manufacturing Industry Specified Skilled Worker (i) Test, please contact us via the “CONTACT” link on the OTAFF homepage.

2. Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible to take the Food Service Industry Specified Skilled Worker (i) Test in Japan, you must satisfy both criteria (1) and (2) on the day of the test.

- (1) Individuals who hold a status of residence (Note 1) and are at least 17 years of age on the day of the test
- (2) Individuals holding a passport (Note 2) issued by a foreign government or an authorized agency of a region designated by the Minister of Justice in a public notice as cooperating in the smooth enforcement of a deportation order

(Note 1) Individuals residing in Japan in compliance with Japanese law are eligible to take the test. Even if you do not have a Residence Card, you can still take the test as long as you are staying in Japan legally for a short period. People who are in Japan without complying with Japanese law (illegal residents) are not eligible to take the test.

(Note 2) At this time, individuals holding passports from countries other than the Islamic Republic of Iran are eligible to take the test.

- Passing this test does not guarantee that you will be granted the “Specified Skilled Worker” status of residence.
- Even if you pass the test and apply for a Certificate of Eligibility for Residence Status or a change of status of residence, there is no guarantee that you will receive the Certificate of Eligibility.
- Even if you receive a Certificate of Eligibility for Residence Status, you are not guaranteed to be issued a visa, as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs conducts a separate review for visa applications.

3. Test Subjects, Administration Methods, etc.

- (1) Test subjects: Two subjects—a written test and a practical test
- (2) Test duration: 70 minutes
- (3) Options: 3 choices
- (4) Language: Japanese (Kanji are accompanied by furigana.)
- (5) Administration Method: Computer-Based Testing (CBT)

The questions will be displayed on the computers at the test venue. Examinees read the questions displayed on the screen and enter their answers on the computer screen.

- (6) Number of questions and point allocation:

Item	Written Test		Practical Test	
	Number of questions	Point allocation	Number of questions	Point allocation
Hygiene Management	10 questions	A perfect score of 40 points (4 points per question)	Judgement test, 3 questions planning, 2 questions	A perfect score of 40 points (8 points per question)
Food and Beverage Preparation	10 questions	A perfect score of 30 points (3 points per question)	Judgement test, 3 questions planning, 2 questions	A perfect score of 30 points (6 points per question)
General Customer Service	10 questions	A perfect score of 30 points (3 points per question)	Judgement test, 3 questions planning, 2 questions	A perfect score of 30 points (6 points per question)
	Total: 30 questions	Total: 100 points	Total: 15 questions	Total: 100 points

[Reference]

Please read the corresponding sections in the learning materials.

4. Passing Criteria

To pass, you must score 130 points or more out of a possible 200 (a correct answer rate of 65% or higher).

5. Test Fee

7,000 yen (including tax)

Once paid, the test fee is non-refundable.

However, we will refund the test fee in the following cases.

- When the test could not be administered due to OTAFF's circumstances
- When OTAFF determines that tests cannot be administered due to natural disasters or other reasons

* If you take the test on a different date, the test fee will not be refunded.

6. Retaking the Test

If you take the same test again after your initial attempt, you must wait 45 days from the day after the previous test. In other words, you can take the test again starting on the 46th day after the previous test date.

7. Important Points to bear in Mind for the Day of the Test

(1) Notes for Reception

- 1) Be sure to review the "[Important Information for the Test Day](#)" before the test.
- 2) If you do not bring the required items on the day of the test, you will not be allowed to take the test.

(2) Important Points to bear in Mind before Entering the Test Room

- 1) We will take a photo of your face before you enter the test room. Your photo will be used on your test result notification.
- 2) You may not bring any items other than your identification documents into the test room. Please place all personal belongings, including smartphones, writing utensils, watches, and calculators, but excluding identification documents, in a locker.

- 3) We will conduct a security check to ensure you are not attempting to bring in items such as smartphones. Please follow the staff's instructions.
- 4) If it is discovered that you are attempting to bring in a smartphone or similar device, you will not be permitted to take the test. Please follow the staff's instructions.
- 5) To prevent problems, the reception area and lockers are monitored by cameras.

(3) Important Points to Bear in Mind during the Test

- 1) During the test, you will use a computer mouse to answer the questions. To click an action button on the computer screen, move the mouse to position the on-screen arrow over the required button, then click the left mouse button once. Click the mouse button only once; do not click it more than once.
- 2) If you write letters or numbers on your body or clothing before or during a test, you may be considered to be cheating and asked to leave the test room, which could result in you being barred from taking the test. Please refrain from writing letters or numbers on your body or clothing.
- 3) During the test, we cannot answer any questions regarding the test format or content. If you have any questions or encounter any problems with the computer, please raise your hand (or press the call button) immediately to summon a staff member. It will not be possible to accommodate requests made after the test has ended.
- 4) Examinees who finish the test early may leave the test room.
- 5) We will distribute notepaper and writing utensils (or electronic pads) for use in the test room. You may also use the calculator built into your computer.
- 6) Please refrain from any form of cheating during the test. The test room is under video surveillance to prevent misconduct. Staff will walk around the test room.
- 7) If you engage in any form of cheating, your test will be immediately terminated and you will be asked to leave.

(4) Precautions when leaving the Test room after the test ends

- 1) When the test is over, please leave the test room.
- 2) Retrieve any belongings you have left in your locker.
- 3) Please be sure to return your locker key to reception. If you take it home by mistake, you will be charged for the cost of replacing the locker key.

(5) Other Notes

- 1) If you engage in behavior that disrupts other examinees or staff, or if you harm or attempt to harm them, you will be barred from taking the test.

- 2) Photography, video recording, and audio recording are not permitted in the test venue (including the reception area).
- 3) Please smoke only in designated areas.
- 4) Only examinees are permitted in the test room. (No chaperones are allowed.)
- 5) Staff members cannot answer any questions regarding test results or scores.

8. Prohibition of Academic Dishonesty and Revocation of Grades and

Other Results

- (1) The following acts constitute misconduct.
 - 1) Any act that undermines the Organization's commitment to providing fair access to test opportunities, including the submission of false information on My Page or duplicate applications, or any attempt to take a test through fraudulent means
 - 2) Acts that undermine the Organization's ability to assess examinees' abilities fairly and appropriately, or acts that interfere with the proper administration of tests
 - 3) Any act that compromises the confidentiality of test questions, such as requesting or receiving information regarding confidential matters, including test questions, from individuals associated with the test
 - 4) Falsification of test result notifications
 - 5) In addition, any conduct that interferes with the fair, impartial, and proper administration of the test

- (2) The following actions within the test room are considered misconduct; if discovered, the test will be terminated immediately.
 - 1) Someone other than a registered examinee taking the test
 - 2) Acts of cheating, such as talking to others in the test room or peeking at other examinees' screens
 - 3) Bringing information into the test room, taking information out of the test room, or any similar acts
 - 4) Bringing in or using items other than those permitted, or engaging in any similar acts (*)
 - 5) Writing on anything other than the notepaper or electronic pads provided at the test venue, or entering the test room with writing on your body (*)

* Bringing items into or out of the test room, or writing anything down, will be considered cheating, regardless of whether or not the information is related to the test.

- (3) Handling of Cases Involving Misconduct

- 1) Examinees who have taken or attempted to take the test by fraudulent means will not be graded.
- 2) OTAFF assumes no responsibility or liability for any difficulties examinees may encounter as a result of engaging in misconduct. We will not refund the application fee.
- 3) If there is anything written on your body or equipment, we will document the items (including taking photographs).
- 4) If misconduct is discovered after the test result notifications have been issued, the grading results, such as passing grades, will be revoked. Any revocation of test results, such as passing grades, will be reported to the Immigration Services Agency of Japan through the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. We will notify the person concerned of the revocation of their passing grade or other test results, and delete the data for the test result notification uploaded to their My Page.
- 5) If you commit an act of misconduct, you may be barred from taking the test for up to five years.