

Converting a foreign driver's license

About converting a foreign driver's license	If you have a valid driver's license that was issued in a foreign country, you can apply for a Japanese driver's license that allows you to drive in Japan with your foreign license.
Process of the procedure	①Confirmation of necessary documents, screening and interview (Advance reservation is required) ↓ ②Knowledge and driving skill check (Make appointment for a later date) ↓ ③Passing the aptitude test (eyesight test, etc.) ↓ ④Passing the knowledge and driving check ↓ ⑤Preparation and issuance of driver's license
Application conditions	If you go through the procedure at the Miyagi Prefecture Driver's License Center, you need to satisfy the all of the following conditions. ①You have a valid foreign driver's license. ②After receiving a license in a foreign country, you stayed in that country for a total period of three months or more. ③You are registered as a resident of Miyagi Prefecture. (You may be asked to submit materials that verify that you are living in Miyagi, such as a health insurance card, apartment contract or utility bill receipt, etc.)
Reception	Prior contact (making an appointment) is required before starting the application procedure (document confirmation), so please call in advance. Monday to Friday (Excluding Saturdays, Sundays, public holidays, and year-end and New Year holidays) 【Contact Information】 Miyagi Prefecture Driver's License Center Examination Section Phone number: 022-373-3601 (weekdays only, 8:30~17:15)
Necessary documents	Valid foreign driver's license (If the date of issuance cannot be confirmed, a driver's record certificate or other documentation may be required.) Japanese translation of the above driver's license (Prepared by the embassy, the consulate or Japan Automotive Federation, etc.) ・ Japan Automotive Federation (JAF) Please check JAF website for details. ・ Ziplus Co., Ltd. Please check Ziplus Co., Ltd.'s website for details. ・ Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Sendai TEL:022-221-2751 <u>Certificate of Residence with your registered domicile listed (or your nationality if you are a foreign resident) (except for current valid Japanese driver's license holders) / Must be issued within the last 6 months</u> Passport (If you have an old passport, please bring it with you) ※ We will check your period of stay in the country you obtained your license in after the license was issued to see if your stay was three months or longer, but if we can't confirm your immigration history, please be prepared to provide various documents for us to check (certificate of graduation, certificate of employment, certificate of tax payment etc.) One photograph (length 3×width 2.4 cm, showing your full face, no hat, blank background, above chest, taken within the past six months before application, <u>without your teeth showing</u>) Japanese driver's license (Only necessary for those who have/have previously held a Japanese driver's license) <u>※ In addition to the above, additional documents may be required depending on the country in which the license was obtained.</u>
Others	After the document review is completed, we will conduct the aptitude test, knowledge and driving skill check on a separate day. The knowledge and driving skill check is by appointment only, so it can't be done on the day you first apply. For the following 29 countries and regions, the knowledge and driving skill check will be exempted and only an aptitude test will be conducted after checking all documents, and a driver's license will be issued after passing the test. ①Iceland,②Ireland,③United States of America(Ohio・Virginia・Hawaii・Maryland・Washington・Oregon・Colorado are exempt from knowledge and driving skill check,and Indiana is exempt from driving skill check),④England,⑤Italy,⑥Australia,⑦Austria, ⑧Netherlands,⑨Canada,⑩Korea,⑪Greek,⑫Switzerland,⑬Sweden,⑭Spain,⑮Slovenia, ⑯Czech,⑰Denmark,⑱Germany,⑲New Zealand,⑳Norway,㉑Hungary,㉒Finland,㉓France, ㉔Belgium,㉕Poland,㉖Portugal,㉗Monaco,㉘Luxembourg,㉙Taiwan Driver's licenses may take until around 5 p.m. to be issued, so please come to the office with time to spare. If you are unable to obtain a certificate of residence, please check with the above contact information. If you are unable to speak the level of Japanese necessary for the screening process, please bring an interpreter with you.