

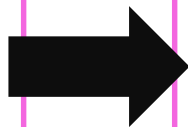


# Startup VISA

**With the “Startup Visa,” the application requirements for the Business Manager status of residence are relaxed, making it easier for foreign nationals to start businesses in Japan.**

## Conventional application requirements for the status of residence

Open a business office  
+  
Employ at least 2 full-time employees  
or  
5 million yen of capital or total amount of capital contributions, etc.



## Startup Visa

From the business plan, etc. of the applying foreign national, Sendai City confirms that the requirements on the left are to be fulfilled in a six-month period or one year period.  
\* Make arrangements for fulfilling the requirements by the time of renewing the period of stay in Japan 6 months later

As shown above, you can use the Startup Visa to obtain over a period up to a year resident status even if you do not currently meet the requirements, and can engage in business startup activities in Sendai City. Since you can commence activities for business startup while experiencing Japanese culture and markets, you can create a business suitable for the conditions in Japan, thereby reducing risks associated with starting a new business.

Application  
Desk

**Startup Support Section,  
Economic Affairs Bureau, Sendai City Government**

9th Floor, Sendai Park Building, 3-6-1, Kokubun-cho,  
Aoba - ku, Sendai

\*Before applying, please contact the Startup Support Section.

Office  
hour

**09:00 to 17:00**

\* Closed on Saturdays, Sundays, public holidays, and any non-business day of the Sendai City Government Office

Inquiries

**Startup Support Section, Economic Affairs Bureau, Sendai City Government**

Tel.: 022-214-8278 (in Japanese)

Email: sendai-startupvisa@city.sendai.jp

## Businesses Eligible for the Startup Visa

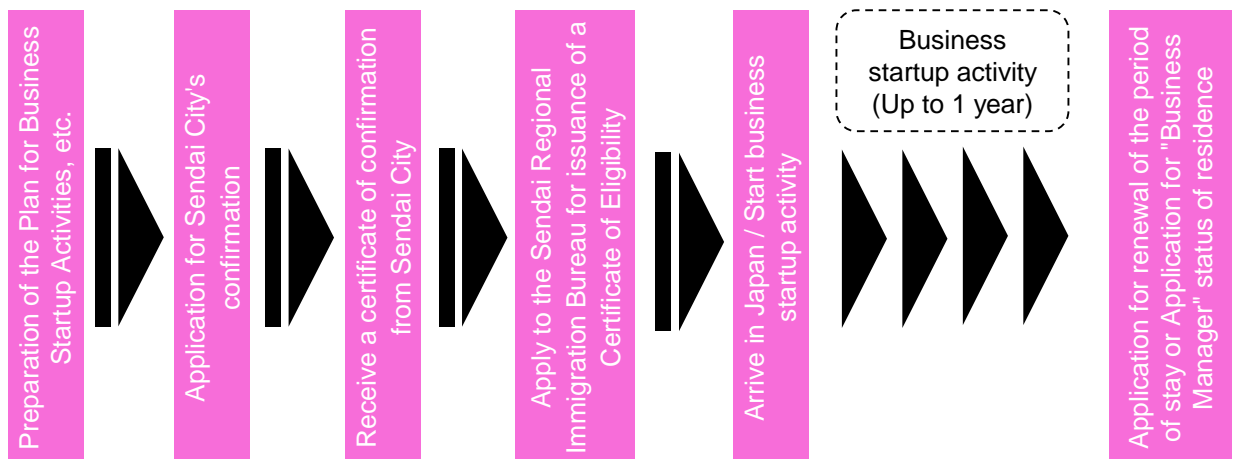
- Knowledge-creating industry: Semiconductor-related businesses, software development, content production, robot-related businesses, etc.
- Industries related to health, medicine, public welfare, and education: Drug discovery venture businesses, medical technology development, regenerative medicine, development of welfare equipment, education-related businesses such as language education, etc.
- Industries related to environment, energy and disaster prevention: Development of clean energy, next-generation power-storing technology, provision of products and services associated with disaster-prevention, etc.
- Industries related to trading and tourism: Businesses contributing to the development of sales channels of products made in Sendai City, businesses associated with attracting foreign tourists, etc.

## Program Targets

Foreign nationals who are starting a new business in Sendai City.  
Prospective entrepreneurs can apply through either program ① or program ② below.  
See webpage for details.

- ① National Strategic Special Zone Program
- Participants receive a Certificate of Eligibility for “Business Manager” status of residence for 6 months.
  - Foreign nationals already residing in Japan under a different status of residence may not participate in this program.
  - After coming to Japan or changing status of residence, the applicant will be subject to an interview regarding the progress of their startup plans every 2 months.
  - URL : <https://www.city.sendai.jp/startup-sogyo/jigyosha/kezai/jigyosho/joho/startupvisa-english.html>
- ② Program Certified by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
- Participants receive a Certificate of Eligibility for “Designated Activities” for up to 1 year (must be renewed after 6 months).
  - Those who are residing in Japan under a different status of residence can also participate in this program.
  - Applicants must fulfill academic or professional requirements.
  - After coming to Japan or changing status of residence, the applicant will be subject to an interview regarding the progress of their startup plans every month.
  - URL : <https://www.city.sendai.jp/startup-sogyo/jigyosha/kezai/jigyosho/joho/startupvisa-kigyo-english.html>

### Flow of Application Process



Consultation Desk for Business Startup



If you have any problem concerning your business while engaging in business startup activities, you can consult with “Assista” Sendai Startup Support Center.

Consultation Desk for daily life

仙台多文化共生センター

If you have any question and consultations about daily life, you can consult with “Sendai Multicultural Center”.