

Specific examples of foreign nationals whose status of residence is not revoked, including when there are any justifiable grounds for not engaging in the activities of a person with the status of spouse

With regard to foreign nationals residing as a spouse of a Japanese national or permanent resident, their status of residence **shall be revoked** when “they have failed to continue to engage in the activities of a person with the status of spouse **for over 6 months** while residing in Japan”, **except when there are any “justifiable grounds”** for not engaging in such activities.

For the purpose of improving the transparency of procedures for revocation of status of residence, the Immigration Bureau of the Ministry of Justice decided to publish major cases of those whose status of residence is not revoked, including cases where there are any “justifiable grounds”, as shown below.

(Note)

When the fact that “any foreign national has failed to continue to engage in the activities of a person with the status of spouse for over 6 months while residing in Japan” is found, the Immigration Bureau of the Ministry of Justice will give the relevant foreign national **an opportunity to apply for permission to change status of residence or permission for permanent residence before taking the procedures to revoke his/her status of residence**. Even foreign nationals who have failed to continue to engage in the activities of a person with the status of spouse for over 6 months while residing in Japan **may be permitted to change to another status of residence, when they have any reason, including taking care of and raising their biological child who has Japanese nationality**.

(Cases)

1. Those who need to **seek temporary shelter or protection** from spouse violence (so-called domestic violence **(DV)**)
2. Those who **live separately** from their spouse but **share living expenses** with them **due to inevitable reasons**, including raising their child
3. Those who have been **staying outside the country for a long time** after obtaining a re-entry permit (including special re-entry permit) **for any reason, including** meeting any of **their relatives** residing in their home country who suffer from an **injury or disease**
4. Those who have **ongoing arbitration proceedings or judicial proceedings for divorce settlement**