

Oct 2015 Introduction of 'Individual Number' (マイナンバー) system

1. Starting in October 2015, your local municipal government office will be sending out a notification card with your Individual Number and an application form to apply for a plastic, Individual Number Card. The Individual Number system is much like a social security number.

2. It is **not compulsory** for you to apply for an 'Individual Number Card', but it might prove to be easier to keep track of than the original paper notification card. If you fill in and submit the application form along with the notification card and a suitable photo, your local municipal office will be issuing the cards starting in January 2016. You will need to go in to your local office to pick up the card.

Initially the Individual Number will only be used for Social Security Admin, Taxation and Disaster response, and wider scale use of the Ind. Number will only start to be introduced from 2017. However, the number you are issued while here on your stay in Japan will be the number assigned to you for the rest of your life, so if you come and stay here in Japan again, you will be using the same number on government service related forms.

You should not share the number, and keep the information private. Examples of places where the number will be used is tax offices, local government, place of employment, financial institutions, pension organizations, medical insurers, and Hello Work Offices.

If you move during your time in Japan, you will need to submit a Move in Notification to the municipal office, and also present your notification card or Individual Number Card to have the details on it changed.

For other cases as well, if any change is made to the information printed on your notification card or Individual Number Card, you must submit a notification to your municipality within 14 days and have that change reflected on your card.

Differences between the Notification Card and the Individual Number Card.

Notification Card: Paper. Information on card – Name, address, date of birth and sex and individual number. No ID photo. So, you will need to submit another form of ID along with the card when using it.



Individual Number Card: Plastic with an IC chip. Information on card – name, address, date of birth and sex, ID photo on front, and individual number on back. Can use as ID to confirm identity. Will make electronic filing of taxes easier. Can be used as ID for things such as DVD rental and gym membership, but the shop should not copy or write down the individual number. You are not legally required to receive or carry the Individual Number Card. The current plan is for a card to be valid for 10 years.



My Number Call Center: 0570-20-0178

Multilingual Call Centers (English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese): 0570-20-0291

About Registered Post Delivery:

If you are not home to receive the Notification Card personally, you must contact the Post Office to reschedule the delivery of the card.

Option 1: If you phone by 7pm on the day that you receive an Undeliverable Item notice from the Post Office, it should be possible for them to deliver your card that night by 9pm.

Option 2: Reschedule delivery by phone or on the internet for one of the following times: 8 a.m. – 12 p.m., 12-2 p.m., 2-5 p.m., 5-7 p.m., 7-9 p.m.

Option 3: Take the Undeliverable Item notice, along with a Photo ID, to the post office that is holding your Notification Card and pick it up in person. You will need to confirm which post office and also opening hours for that post office.

This is what an Undeliverable Item Notice looks like:



Check List:

1. Be at home to receive the notification card / application for Individual Number card.
2. If not at home, use either option 1, 2, or 3 to receive the notification card / application for Individual Number card.
3. Keep the notification card with your passport in a safe place. Take a number of copies so that if anything happens, you still have a record of your identification number.

If you want to, send in the application form, along with the notification card and a photo, in order to receive your Individual Number Card (from Jan 2016).