**Work and Holiday –Japan/Slovakia**

On 1 June 2016, the new Work and Holiday visa arrangements between Japan and the Slovak Republic commenced, enabling eligible young Japanese nationals to apply for a National visa for Slovakia.

The National visa under the Work and Holiday programme is for young people who want to holiday and work in Slovakia for up to a year. It is a temporary visa that encourages cultural exchange and closer ties between Japan and Slovak Republic.

The Slovak Republic will issue a multiple entry National visa for a temporary stay period of twelve (12) calendar months from the date of first entry, to a national of the Japan, who satisfies each of the following requirements:

a) has the primary intention to holiday in the territory of Slovak Republic, with employment and study being incidental rather than primary reasons for the visit;

b) is aged between eighteen (18) and thirty (30) years, both inclusive at the time of application;

c) will not be accompanied by dependents unless those dependents are also in possession of the said visa or other visas;

d) is a holder of a valid passport issued by the competent authorities of Japan, valid at least 15 months after your visa is granted

e) possesses sufficient funds for their personal maintenance during the period of stay in the territory of the Slovakia(4.000 EUR or 3.000EUR and valid return travel (air) ticket for departure from the territory of Slovak Republic to Japan);

f) pays any fees associated with the visa application (at this moment visa application fee is 33EUR);

g) holds a medical and comprehensive hospitalization insurance for the duration of their stay in the territory of the Slovak Republic; the insurance must cover all costs that may arise in connection with the repatriation of the applicant to Japan due to health problems, urgent medical treatment, emergency hospital treatment or death.

h) is a holder of good health certificate issued by healthcare facility of Japan, applicant must be free from infection disease or condition considered to be a threat to public health or a danger to the Slovakian community.

i) provides extract from the Crime register of Japan verified by Apostile of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

j) has not previously been issued the visa in the “Work and Holiday Programme”: and

k) intends to comply with the laws and regulations in force in the Slovak Republic during his or her stay in the Slovak Republic.

Slovak Republic will issue up to two hundred twenty (220) National visas to nationals of Japan who satisfy the requirements under the Work and Holiday programme.

Person who has granted permission to enter the territory of the Slovak Republic and holds national visa will be permited to stay in Slovakia for maximum period of twelve (12) months from the date of the first entry into the territory of Slovak; and to exit and re-enter the territory of the Slovak Republic for the period validity of the National visa under this programme. They may not extend their sty beyond the period authorized or alter their immigration status during their stay in the Slovak Republic under these arrangements.

Participants in the “Work and Holiday Programme” during their stay in the Slovak republic be able to take work incidental to their holiday in order to supplement their travel funds. They may enroll in short-term language courses and/or similar courses for the purpose of learning the culture and general way of life in the Slovak Republic.

**How to apply**

Using an official printed form, the visa application can be lodged in person at the Embassy of the Slovak republic in Tokyo, 2-11-33, Moto-Azabu, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0046. Visa applicants have to complete an application for a visa before coming to the Embassy of Slovakia in Tokyo and book a date of application for a visa at the Embassy. If more information is required, please contact the Embassy of the Slovak republic in Tokyo. Do not finalize any travel arrangements until after the grant of your visa. This is because visa processing times can vary depending in your personal circumstances.

Application for national Visa