

Status of U.S. Forces Agreement USA

Members of the U.S. armed forces

If you are a member of the U.S. armed forces to be stationed in one of the bases in Japan (as defined by the SOFA), you will not need a visa to travel to Japan. Please be sure to take your military order and a military ID.

The civilian component of the U.S. armed forces and the dependents of members/civilian component of the U.S. armed forces

If you are a member of the civilian component of the U.S. armed forces or the dependents of members/civilian component of the U.S. armed forces to be stationed in one of the bases in Japan (as defined by the SOFA), you will not need a visa to travel to Japan. Please be sure to take your military order, military ID and **a valid passport**.

Dependents who are non-U.S. citizens

If you are a dependent accompanying military personnel mentioned above and are non-U.S. citizens, visa is actually not necessary but we can issue a SOFA visa to facilitate your entry into Japan. If you choose to apply for this visa, please bring:

1. Applicant's valid passport, properly signed by bearer
2. VISA APPLICATION FORM TO ENTER JAPAN (http://www.us.emb-japan.go.jp/j/download/VISA_APPLI.pdf), completely filled out and signed by the applicant
3. One photograph (2"x 2") attached to application form
4. A clear photocopy of his/her Military Dependent ID
5. Travel Order from the military explicitly stating the name of the applicant

Contractor

If you are a military contractor traveling to the US bases in Japan, and will stay for less than 90 days, you usually will qualify as short-term visitor. Please check if you need a visa [using the window on your left.]

If you intend to stay in Japan for more than 90 days, please apply for an appropriate work visa (e.g. engineer).

- VISA APPLICATION FORM TO ENTER JAPAN (http://www.us.emb-japan.go.jp/j/download/VISA_APPLI.pdf), completely filled out and signed by the applicant

Some contractors are granted SOFA status by the Pentagon. If you qualify, you will not need a visa regardless of the duration of stay. [Please refer to the Pentagon Travel Office for details.](#)