

# Program to increase foreign entrepreneurs

## Smoothen business startups in Tokyo by foreign nationals through deregulation

The program to promote an increase of foreign entrepreneurs, which was formulated at the 6<sup>th</sup> Tokyo Area Special Zone Meeting and approved by the Prime Minister on October 20, 2015, is scheduled for launch in January 2016.

Foreign nationals wishing to start up business in Japan need to obtain a “business manager” visa. To receive this status of residence, in addition to opening an office, the applicant must employ at least two people full-time, or invest at least 5 million yen in Japan. This presents a high hurdle to prospective foreign entrepreneurs.

In this program to increase foreign entrepreneurs, applicants can receive status of residence (business management) for half a year even if these conditions are not met, if business plans and other necessary information are submitted to the Tokyo Metropolitan Government and the Tokyo Metropolitan Government confirms that the applicant has prospects for fulfilling the conditions within that half year.

The Business Development Center TOKYO will provide individual support so that the foreign entrepreneur will be able to fulfill the conditions by the end of the six months, and renew his/her status of residence.

**Launch date** On January 29 , 2016

**Subjects**

Foreign nationals wishing to start business in Tokyo  
(including those planning to be joint founders)

(Foreign nationals who are already residing in Japan under other status of residence cannot, in principle, use this program to change their status of residence.)

**Inquiries**

**Business Development Center Tokyo**

Address:

Business Development Support Desk:

Japan External Trade Organization Headquarters, 7F ARK

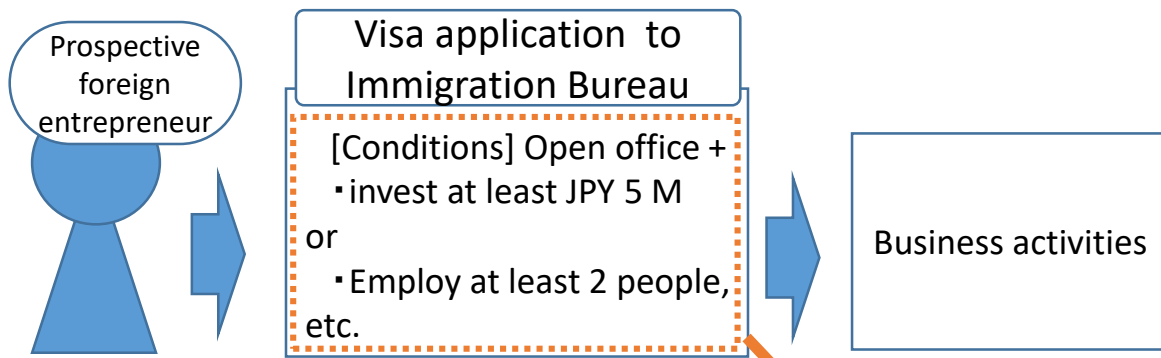
Mori Building, 12-32 Akasaka, 1-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo

E-mail : [support2@bdc-tokyo.org](mailto:support2@bdc-tokyo.org) Phone: 03-3582-8353



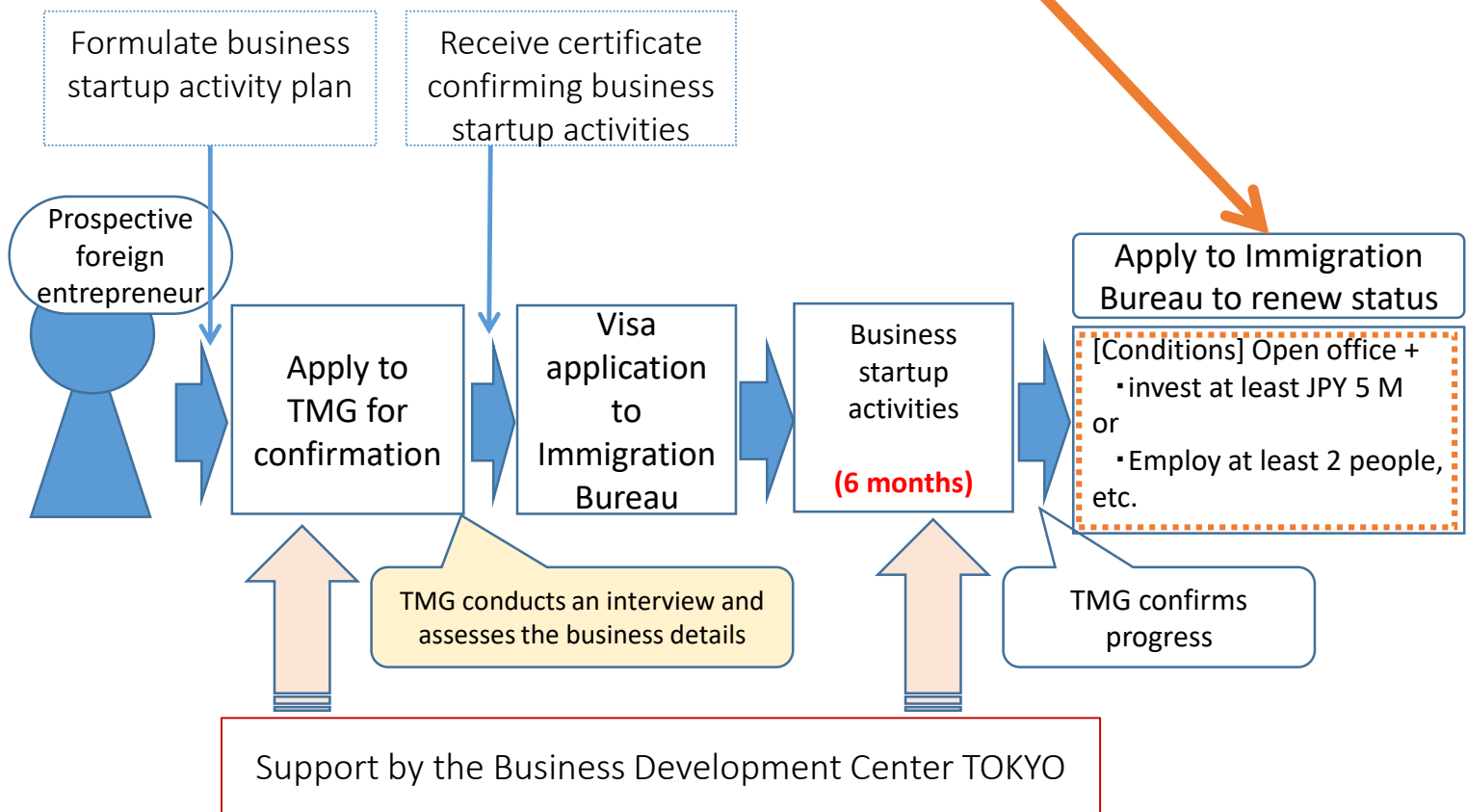
# Program Overview

[Traditional process to receive a “business management” visa]



[Process when using the exception to the Immigration Control Act Law]

→ Need only to fulfill the conditions for status of residence **by the end of 6 months!**



## <Application documents>

- 1) Application for confirmation of business startup activities, (2) Plan for confirmation of business startup activities ,
- (3) Applicant’s resume, (4) Copy of applicant’s passport, (5) Document that can clarify where the applicant will be residing for 6 months after coming to Japan, (6) Other necessary documents

## <Notes about the interview included in the process of application for confirmation of business startup activities>

- After TMG receives an application, TMG officials will conduct an interview with the applicant.
- Applicants will be informed by a TMG official about the schedule of the interview via e-mail.
- The interview will take place in Main Building No.1 of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Office.