

### Visa waiver for Thai citizens

Marking the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASEAN-Japan friendship and cooperation this year, The Government of Japan has decided to introduce a visa waiver policy for Thai citizens who wish to visit Japan as temporary visits, starting from 1 July, 2013.

The specific details of the visa waiver policy are shown below:

Starting date: 1 July 2013

Period of stay allowed: 15 days or less (only limited to the purpose of entering Japan being “temporary visits”.)

(NOTE) In the case where the period of stay will be over 15 days, and/or the purpose of entering Japan is not categorized as “temporary visits”, such as for employment etc, application for a Japanese visa in advance will still be required.

Who is eligible for the visa waiver policy: only limited to those holding general IC (with microchip) passports.

(NOTE) For those who do not hold a general IC (with microchip) passport, application for a Japanese visa in advance will still be required.

Furthermore, please be aware that the Consulate will not refund any fees paid for visas issued prior to the introduction of the visa waiver policy.

For further details, please refer to the below link of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan:

[http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e\\_000126.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000126.html)