

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION**Agreement on Social Security Between the United States and Japan; Entry Into Force**

AGENCY: Social Security Administration (SSA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commissioner of Social Security gives notice that an agreement coordinating the United States (U.S.) and Japanese social security programs entered into force on October 1, 2005. The agreement with Japan, which was signed on February 19, 2004, is similar to U.S. social security agreements already in force with 20 other countries—Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Korea (South), Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. Agreements of this type are authorized by section 233 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 433).

Like the other agreements, the U.S.-Japanese agreement eliminates dual social security coverage—the situation that exists when a worker from one country works in the other country and is covered under the social security systems of both countries for the same work. When dual coverage occurs, the worker or the worker's employer or both may be required to pay social security contributions to the two countries simultaneously. Under the U.S.-Japanese agreement, a worker who is sent by an employer in one country to work in the other country for 5 years or less remains covered only by the sending country. The agreement includes additional rules that eliminate dual U.S. and Japanese coverage in other work situations.

The agreement also helps eliminate situations where workers suffer a loss of benefit rights because they have divided their careers between the two countries. Under the agreement, workers may qualify for partial U.S. benefits or partial Japanese benefits based on combined (totalized) work credits from both countries.

Individuals who wish to obtain copies of the agreement or want more information about its provisions may write to the Social Security Administration, Office of International Programs, Post Office Box 17741, Baltimore, MD 21235-7741 or visit the Social Security Web site at <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/international>.

Dated: January 13, 2006.

Jo Anne B. Barnhart,

Commissioner of Social Security.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 5280]

Title: Statement of Policy on J-1 Flight Training Programs

AGENCY: Department of State.

ACTION: Statement of policy.

DATES: *Effective Date:* This policy is effective January 24, 2006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Stanley S. Colvin, Director, Office of Exchange Coordination and Designation, U.S. Department of State, SA-44, 301 4th St., SW., Room 734, Washington, DC 20547. E-mail: jexchanges@state.gov; FAX: 202-203-5087.

SUMMARY: The Department hereby announces its policy regarding flight training programs, which are governed by the Department's Exchange Visitor Program regulations appearing in 22 CFR part 62.

Since 1949 the Department has designated private sector and governmental entities to conduct training programs for eligible foreign nationals. For the past twenty years, flight training activities have been authorized and currently, eight organizations facilitate the entry into the United States of some 350 foreign nationals yearly for the purpose of flight training. Flight training programs utilizing the J visa are regulated by the Department under the authority of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, as amended (Fulbright-Hays Act), 22 U.S.C. 2451 et seq.; the Immigration and Naturalization Act, 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(J); the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998, Public Law 105-277; as well as other statutory enactments, Reorganization Plans and Executive Orders. Regulations dealing specifically with flight training programs appear at 22 CFR 62.22(n). Certain flight training programs also utilize the M visa, which is regulated and administered by the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Regulations governing the M visa appear at 8 CFR 214.2(m).

The USA Patriot Act of 2001 ("The Uniting and Strengthening Act By Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism"), Public Law 107-56, mandated that the

Department of State, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Education, and the Attorney General, all take cognizance of and undertake certain actions regarding flight training programs. The Department of State has determined that it does not have the expertise and resources to fully monitor flight training programs and insure their compliance with the national security concerns expressed in the Patriot Act. Consequently, as a matter of policy, the Department of State will henceforth not designate any new J visa flight training programs, nor will it permit currently-designated flight training programs to expand their programs, pending a determination as to which Federal agency ultimately will be tasked with the administering and monitoring of such programs. Redesignation of programs will continue as required by existing regulations.

Dated: January 18, 2006.

Stanley S. Colvin,

Director, Office of Exchange Coordination, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 5262]

Arms Control and Nonproliferation Advisory Board (ACNAB) Meeting Notice; Closed Meeting

In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app 2 section 10(a)(2), the Department of State announces a meeting of the Arms Control and Nonproliferation Advisory Board (ACNAB) to take place on January 30, 2006, at the Department of State, Washington, DC.

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app 2 section 10(d) and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1), it has been determined that this Board meeting will be closed to the public in the interest of national defense and foreign policy because the Board will be reviewing and discussing matters classified in accordance with Executive Order 12958. The purpose of the ACNAB is to provide the Department with a continuing source of independent advice on all aspects of arms control, disarmament, international security, and public diplomacy. The Board will be briefed on current U.S. policy and issues regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction and Counter-Terrorism, as well as issues related to the Proliferation Security