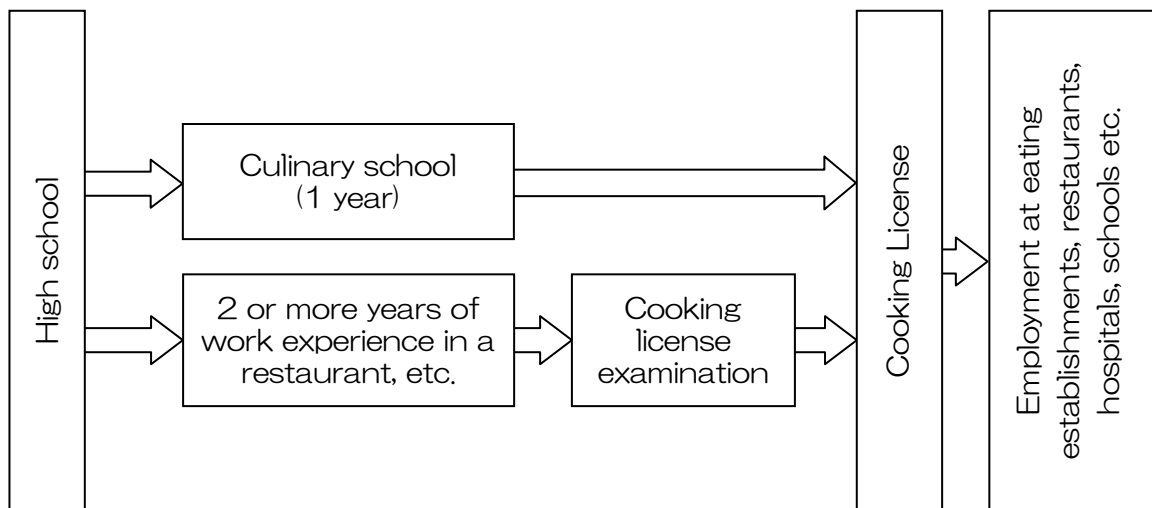


32 Licensed Cook

A person who has cooking license is called licensed cook. Licensed cooks go by various names, such as “cook,” “chef” or “itamae” depending on the type of the restaurant they work at. The knowledge and skills required of each cook are different depending on what type of cuisine you want to specialize in. For instance, people who wish to specialize in another country’s cuisine often visit or live in that country to learn how to produce that particular flavor. People who wish to open up their own restaurants will need to learn management skills.

This job is suitable for the people who love food and enjoy serving food to others. Since it often takes cooks a long time to move up the ranks where they work, patience, a healthy body and ambition are necessary for success.

Becoming a licensed cook:



Prepare now:

Licensed cooks in Japan require the Japanese language skills necessary to comprehend directions from kitchen staff. Since Japanese food is becoming popular worldwide, cooks from Japan may have more opportunities overseas. Prepare for your career early by studying Japanese as well as improving your native language skills.

Job prospects:

Licensed cooks can work at various places where food is served, such as restaurants, dining halls, Japanese-style restaurants, hotels, hospitals and schools. According to the survey in 2013, the average annual income is approximately 3.3 million yen.

Tuition:

The tuition of cooking school will cost approximately 2 million yen per year.