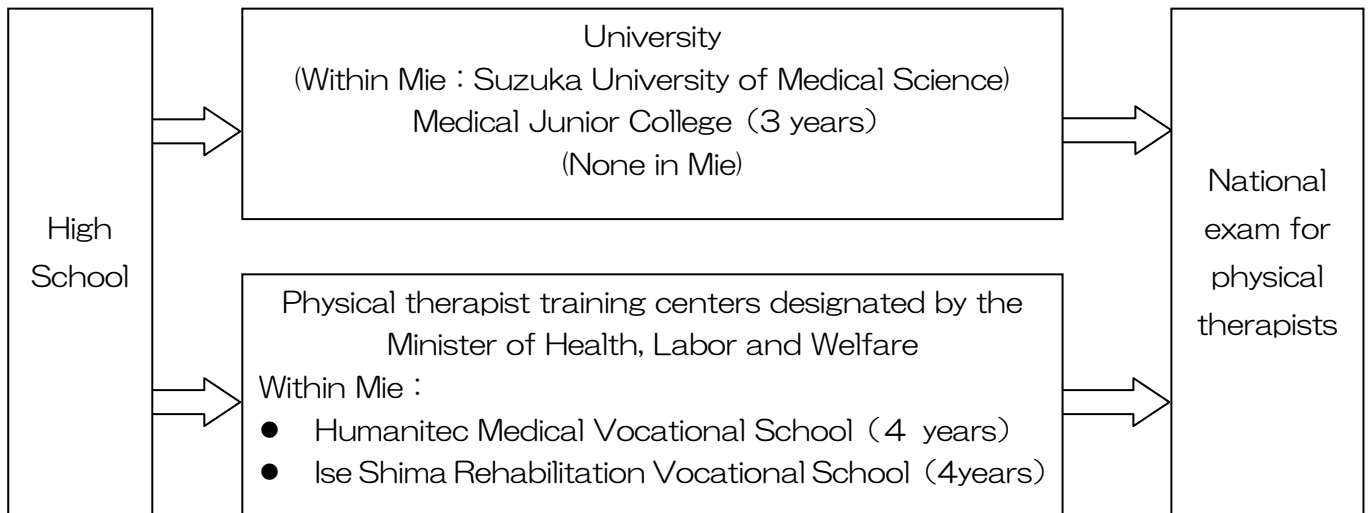


8 Physical Therapist

Physical therapists use movement therapy and massage to help rehabilitate people who have lost movement or become physically impaired due to illness or injury. Physical therapists assess patients' lifestyles and health needs and provide them with support and advice. Unfortunately, there are very few non-Japanese physical therapists in Japan. For non-Japanese patients, a physical therapist that can speak their native language can be very comforting.

Becoming a physical therapist:



※Non-Japanese residents who are certified physical therapists in their home countries can apply to have training requirements waived by the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare, or complete additional coursework to meet Japanese certification requirements.



Prepare now:

You will need strong Japanese language and math skills to gain admission to schools that train physical therapists. It is important that you start improving your Japanese and native language skills as soon as possible.

Job prospects:

In addition to working at hospitals, physical therapists can work at public health centers, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes that provide specialized care, and centers for disabled children. Salary for physical therapists varies by employer, but averages about 3.9 million yen per year.

Tuition:

Private university tuition can cost upwards of 6 million yen over 4 years. Private training center tuition can cost upwards of 5.5 million yen over 4 years.