

March 25, 2026

The Scheduled Airlines Association of Japan

## Request Regarding Carry-on Baggage

The Scheduled Airlines Association of Japan (SAAJ) has established new industry-wide guidelines for carry-on baggage aiming to achieve smooth boarding and on-time operations. These guidelines will take effect on Wednesday, April 1, 2026.

### 1. Background and Objectives

In alignment with an administrative notice from the Civil Aviation Bureau of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (issued on March 19) to address the recent decline in operational punctuality, SAAJ has established unified industry guidelines for carry-on baggage across its member airlines.

By ensuring a clear understanding of carry-on baggage limits and encouraging passengers to check baggage in advance, we aim to streamline the boarding process and maintain reliable flight schedules. These measures are also expected to enhance cabin safety by reducing the risk of passenger injuries caused by falling baggage.

### 2. Scope

Domestic and international flights

### 3. Effective Date

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

### 4. Guideline Details

*Note: The second and fourth items below are new rules; the first and third are existing rules.*

- **Number of Items:** Passengers may bring up to two items into the cabin: one carry-on bag and one personal item.
- **Size of Personal Item [New]:** Personal items, such as a purse or small handbag, must be small enough to fit completely under the seat in front of the passenger.
- **Size and Weight of Carry-on Bag:** Specific dimensions and weight limits are set by each individual airline. Dimensions include handles and wheels, and the weight limit applies to the combined total of the carry-on bag and personal item.
- **Additional Requirement [New]:** In addition to the conditions above, passengers are requested to bring only baggage that they can lift and stow in the overhead compartment without assistance.

## **5. Additional Information**

- As storage space in the cabin is limited, any baggage that cannot be safely stowed may need to be checked and transported in the cargo hold.
- Please note that specific cut-off times apply to all boarding procedures, including baggage check-in. Passengers are requested to confirm their airline's regulations in advance and ensure they meet these requirements.

As providers of essential public transportation, we remain committed to the highest standards of safety and on-time performance. We appreciate the understanding and cooperation of all passengers regarding these new carry-on baggage guidelines.

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## **About The Scheduled Airlines Association of Japan (SAAJ)**

Established on December 6, 1991, SAAJ conducts various research and studies related to the air transportation industry in order to promote the sound development of air transport services in Japan.

### **Main Activities:**

- Research and studies related to the air transportation industry
- Policy advocacy and petitions to government agencies, the legislature, political parties, and other stakeholders
- Public outreach to air travelers and the general public
- Matters concerning legal and regulatory issues
- Other activities necessary to achieve the association's objectives

Number of member companies: 19 (As of March 25, 2026)