

2013 Aikido World Alliance ®

ADULTS KYU AND DAN TEST REQUIREMENTS

7th KYU – White Belt with Stripe

Time and Events Requirements

Minimum **2 months** and **20 hours** of training

Ki Tests and Exercises

- **Seiza** - Sitting Japanese style with legs folded underneath
- **Koho Tento Undo** - Rolling backward and forward from sitting, kneeling and standing positions
- **Ushiro Ukemi, Rolling** - Tumbling backward completely, from kneeling and standing positions
- **Mae Ukemi, Rolling** - Tumbling forward completely, from kneeling and standing positions
- **Kokyudosa** - Partner practice in seiza position; exercise to develop timing or “breath” power
- **Taisabaki Toshu** – “Empty-hand body movement” against, Katatekosatori (cross hand) attack

Technique

- **Katatekosatori Kotegaeshi** - Cross-hand wrist grab/ “Wrist-turning” throw, pin
 - **Katatori Ikkyo** - Lapel grab/ “First teaching” and pin
 - **Katatekosatori Kokyunage** - Cross-hand wrist grab/ “Timing throw;” controlling the head
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6th KYU – Yellow Belt

Time and Events Requirements

- Minimum **3 months** and **30 hours** of training after earning 7th Kyu

Ki Tests and Exercises

- **Ushiro Ukemi, Breakfall** - Rolling backward with **DOUBLE** slap, and returning to standing position
- **Mae Ukemi, Breakfall** - Falling forward with slap, and returning to standing position
- **Empty Hand Strikes** – Demonstration of basic strikes; shomenuchi, yokomenuchi & munetsuki
- **Funakogi Undo** - “Rowing exercise”
- **Shomenuchi Ikkyo Undo** - Raising and lowering the arms as if cutting with a sword
- **Taisabaki Toshu** – “Empty-hand body movement” against, Katatori (shoulder grab) & Katatatori(same side hand)attacks.

Technique

- **Shomenuchi Kokyunage** - Downward strike to the head/ “Timing throw;” controlling the head
 - **Katatatori Shihonage** - Same side wrist grab/ “Four directions throw”
 - **Shomenuchi Iriminage** - Downward strike to the head/ “Entering throw”
 - **Katatori Nikyo** - Lapel grab/ “Second teaching” and pin
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5th KYU – Yellow Belt with Stripe

Time and Events Requirements

Minimum **4 months** and **40 hours** of training after earning 6th Kyu.

Ki Tests and Exercises

- **Hanmi No Kamae** - “Half-body stance”
- **Zengo Undo** - Raising and lowering arms as if cutting with a sword, with 180 degree pivoting motion
- **Happo Undo** - Raising and lowering arms with movement as if cutting in eight directions
- **Tekubikosa Undo** - “Crossing the wrists exercise;” high and low variations required
- **Kamae with Bokken** - Demonstration of five basic sword stances
- **Bokken and Jo Suburi** - Demonstration of basic strikes with sword and staff

Technique

- **Shomenuchi Kotegaeshi** - Downward strike to the head/ “Wrist turning” throw and pin
 - **Shomenuchi Ikkyo** - Downward strike to the head/ “First teaching” and pin
 - **Katatatori Sankyo** - Same side wrist grab/ “Third teaching;” both nage waza (throwing) and katame waza (pinning) variations required
 - **Yokomenuchi Sokumen Iriminage** - Strike to the side of the head/ “Side of the face, Entering throw” (technique performed in the manner of Sayu Undo)
 - **Munetsuki Kotegaeshi** - Thrusting strike to the chest / “Wrist turning” throw and pin
 - **Katatatori Kaitenage** - Same side wrist grab/ “Rotary throw.” Tenkan variation required
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ADULTS KYU AND DAN TEST REQUIREMENTS

4th KYU – Blue Belt

Time and Events Requirements

- Minimum **5 months** and **50 hours** of training since earning 5th Kyu

Ki Tests and Exercises

- **Sayu Choyaku Undo** - “Left and right exercise;” with stepping movement
- **Udefuri Choyaku Undo** - “Swinging the arms exercise” with stepping and turning motion
- **Ushirotori Undo** - “Grasped from behind exercise”
- **Ushirotekubitori Undo** - “Wrists grasped from behind exercise”
- **Shikko** - Walking and turning on one’s knees
- **Taisabaki Toshu** - “Empty-hand body movement” against Shomenuchi, Yokomenuchi and Munetsuki attacks.

Technique

- **Yokomenuchi Shihonage** - Strike to the side of the head/ “Four directions throw”
 - **Ushirotekubitori Kokyunage** - Wrists grasped from behind/ “Timing throw;” variation in the manner of Ushirotekubitori Undo required
 - **Ushirotekubitori Kotegaeshi** - Wrists grasped from behind/ “Wrist turning” throw and pin
 - **Katatori Yonkyo** - Lapel grab/ “Fourth teaching” and pin
 - **Ryotetori TENCHINAGE** - Grasping both wrists/ “Heaven and Earth throw”
 - **Ryotetori Kokyunage** - Grasping both wrists/ “Timing throw;” pivot throw variations required
 - **Jo Kagrame #1 & 2** – First & second mirrored movement with staff
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3rd KYU – Blue Belt with Stripe

Time and Events Requirements

- Minimum **6 months** and **60 hours** of training since earning 4th Kyu

Ki Tests and Exercises

- **Yoko Ukemi** - “Side fall” exercise, from squatting and standing position, from tumbling forward, and while hand is grasped by a partner
- **Tenkan Undo** - “Spinning change exercise;” turning body movement (direct pivot and step-with-pivot variations required)

Technique

- **Ushirohijitori Kotegaeshi** - Grasping elbows from behind/ “Wrist-turning” throw and pin
 - **Munetsuki Kokyunage** - Thrusting strike to the chest / “Timing throw;” pivot-throw variation required
 - **Katatori Gokyo** - Lapel grab/ “Fifth teaching” and pin
 - **Ushirotori Kokyunage** - Grasping from behind (bearhug)/ “Timing throw;” executed in the manner of Ushirotori Undo
 - **Ryotetori Kaitenage** - Grasping both wrists/ “Rotary throw”
 - **Katateriyotetori Nikyo** - Grasping a forearm with both hands/ “Second teaching” and pin
 - **Suwariwaza** (the following techniques performed from seated (seiza) position):
 - **Shomenuchi Kokyunage**
 - **Shomenuchi Ikkyo**
 - **Katatori Nikyo**
 - **Bokken Kata I** - First sword form; 13 movements (“Happo Giri;” cutting in eight directions)
 - **Jo Kagrame #3** – Third mirrored movement with staff
 - **Jiyu Waza** - “Free technique;” defense against grasping attack, **no pinning techniques**. Katatetori, katateriyotetori, katatori, ryokatatori or ushirotekubitori, based on test committee’s request
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ADULTS KYU AND DAN TEST REQUIREMENTS

2nd KYU – Brown Belt

Time and Events Requirements

- Minimum 8 months and 80 hours of training since earning 3rd Kyu
- Prior attendance at 1 AWA seminar since earning 3rd kyu**
- Prior attendance at 1 AWA camp OR Kangeiko OR Shochugeiko**
- ** (minimum 6 hours attendance at each event)

Ki Tests and Exercises

- **Agura no Shisei** - Sitting cross legged
- **Agaranai Karada** - Unliftable body
- **Kokyuhō** - Demonstration of breath training

Technique

- **Ryokatori Koryunage** - Grasping both lapels/ "Timing throw;" pivot-throw variations required
- **Ushirokatori Koryunage** - Grasping both shoulders from behind/ "Timing throw;" variation with bowing movement required
- **Katateriyoteteri Koryunage** - Grasping a forearm with both hands/ "Timing throw"
- **Ryokatori Kotegaeshi** - Grasping both lapels / "Wrist-turning" throw, pin
- **Katatori Menuchi Iriminage** - Lapel grab with shomenuchi or yokomenuchi to head/ "Entering throw"
- **Hanmi Hantachi Waza** (the following techniques performed from a seated (seiza) position against a standing attacker:
 - **Katateri Shihonage**
 - **Katateri Sankyo**
 - **Munetsuki Kotegaeshi**
- **Ryoteteri Koshinage** - Grasping both wrists/ "Hip throw"
- **Maegeri Koryunage** - Front snapping kick/ "Timing throw"
- **Jiyu Waza** - "Free technique;" defense against a striking attack, **no pinning techniques**. Shomenuchi, yokomenuchi or munetsuki, based on test committee's request.
- **Jo Kagame #4** – Fourth mirrored movement with staff
- **Jo Kata I** - First staff form; 22 movements

1st KYU – Brown Belt with Stripe

Time and Events Requirements

- Minimum 10 months and 100 hours of training since earning 2nd Kyu
- Prior attendance at 1 AWA Camp OR Shochugeiko OR Kangeiko since earning 2nd Kyu**
- Prior attendance at 1 Yudansha kai since earning 2nd Kyu**
- ** (minimum 10 hours attendance at each event)
- 1st kyu test video taped and sent to Sato sensei for pre shodan test review

Ki Tests and Exercises

- **Tai Sabaki with Bokken** - Body movement and striking with the sword against an opponent, against shomenuchi, yokomenuchi, sliding munetsuki, and stepping munetsuki attacks

Technique

- **Ushirotekubitori Jujinage** - Grasp both wrists from behind/ entwining the arms in the shape of the Japanese number "10" (a cross) and throwing
 - **Yokomenuchi Sudori** - Strike to the side of the head/ "Disappearing" throw
 - **Katateriyoteteri Kotegaeshi** - Grasping a forearm with both hands/ "Wrist turning" throw and pin
 - **Munetsuki Sumiotoshi** - Thrusting attack to the chest/ "Corner drop" throw, both irimi & tenkan
 - **Katatori Ganmenuchi Ikkyo** - Lapel grab with straight punch to face/ "First teaching" and pin
 - **Tantodori** – "Seizing the knife", unarmed defense against knife attacks; minimum 3 techniques each against shomenuchi, yokomenuchi, and munetsuki attacks required
 - **Jo Kagame #5** – Fifth mirrored movement with staff
 - **Bokken Kata II** - Second sword form; 13 movements
 - **Randori** - "Seizing chaos;" defense against multiple attackers (3)
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ADULTS KYU AND DAN TEST REQUIREMENTS

Shodan – Black Belt, 1st Degree

Time and Events Requirements

- Minimum 12 months and 120 hours of training since earning 1st Kyu
- Attendance at 1 Yudansha kai OR Instructor seminar since earning 1st kyu**
- Attendance at 1 AWA seminar since earning 1st kyu**
- **** (minimum 10 hours attendance at Yudansha kai, minimum 6 hours attendance at AWA seminar)**

Two written essays required:

“What is your understanding of what is Aikido ?”

“What is your understanding of what is Shugyo?”

Technique

- **Munetsuki** - Free demonstration, nage waza & katame waza; minimum five arts
 - **Yokomenuchi** - Free demonstration, nage waza & katame waza; minimum five arts
 - **Ushirotekubitori** - Free demonstration, nage waza & katame waza; minimum five arts
 - **Ryotetori** - Free demonstration, nage waza & katame waza; minimum five arts
 - **Hanmi Hantachi** - Free technique, no pinning
 - **Bokken Dori** - “Seizing the wooden sword:” unarmed defense against sword attack; minimum 3 techniques each against shomenuchi, yokomenuchi, and munetsuki attacks required
 - **Jo Kata II** - Second staff form; 22 movements
 - **Randori** - Defense against multiple attackers (4)
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1. These requirements are a MINIMUM standard for the purposes of promotion testing; this is not a comprehensive listing of all the applications of technique with which you must be familiar.
2. Many techniques have irimi/omote (front) and tenkan/ura (rear) variations, which you must demonstrate.
3. Many techniques have applications against both static and dynamic attacks, which you must know.
4. In certain cases a particular variation of a technique is required and is noted above; you are encouraged, however, to demonstrate additional variations.
5. All tests are CUMULATIVE; you must be prepared to demonstrate exercises and techniques from all ranks prior to the one for which you are actually testing.
6. Requirements for attendance at AWA Aikido Seminar, Camps and AWA events when required need to be fulfilled OR will delay your opportunity to test for requested rank status, specifically dan testing.
7. **While attendance requirements may appear demanding it is for the best interest of the student to be seen, taught and mentored by Sato sensei & the Technical Committee to help insure each student succeeds in passing their dan test examination.**
8. **Dojo cho MUST be present for a student to test, the dojo cho will also be part of that test committee, either in observation capacity or actual voting capacity if sandan or above in rank.**
9. All test candidates must complete the following prior to testing:
 - Examination application form must be completed legibly and submitted to your instructor
 - Examination fee must be paid
10. All Dan testing will be conducted by Sato Sensei and either the AWA national test committee or an approved test committee.
11. NO application for promotion testing will be accepted by the test committee without the knowledge and consent of the candidate’s instructor.
12. Minimum age for shodan is 16 years, yondan 22 years.
13. ALL dan rank testing must be confirmed with Sato and dojo cho before making application.
14. **ALL dan applications MUST BE submitted two months prior to test date in typed format. Past due date submission of application or handwritten applications will be returned, which may delay your opportunity to test for requested rank status.**

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ADULTS KYU AND DAN TEST REQUIREMENTS

Nidan - Black Belt, 2nd Degree

Time and Events Requirements

- **Minimum 24 months and 100 hours of training since earning Shodan**
- **Attendance at 2 AWA Camp OR Kangeiko OR Shochugeiko since earning Shodan****
- **Attendance at 2 Yudansha kai OR Instructor seminars since earning Shodan****
- **** (minimum 10 hours attendance at EACH Yudansha kai, minimum 6 hours attendance at EACH AWA event)**

A written essay required:

“Aikido History and your feelings about the Future of Aikido”

Technique

- **Test Committee Request** – Free demonstration from Shodan requirements; minimum five arts
- **Katatori Ganmenuchi** - Free demonstration, nage waza & katame waza; minimum five arts
- **Shomenuchi**- Free demonstration, nage waza & katame waza; minimum five arts
- **Hanmi Hantachi** - Free technique against two attackers, no pinning
- **Jo Dori** - “Seizing the staff.” unarmed defense against staff attack; minimum 3 techniques each against shomenuchi, yokomenuchi, and munetsuki attacks required
- **Jo Awase**- Blending movement with the staff
- **Randori** - Defense against multiple attackers (5)

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 3. Many techniques have applications against both static and dynamic attacks, which you must know.
 4. In certain cases a particular variation of a technique is required and is noted above; you are encouraged, however, to demonstrate additional variations.
 5. All tests are CUMULATIVE; you must be prepared to demonstrate exercises and techniques from all ranks prior to the one for which you are actually testing.
 6. Requirements for attendance at AWA Aikido Seminar, Camps and AWA events when required need to be fulfilled OR will delay your opportunity to test for requested rank status, specifically dan testing.
 7. **While attendance requirements may appear demanding it is for the best interest of the student to be seen, taught and mentored by Sato sensei & the Technical Committee to help insure each student succeeds in passing their dan test examination.**
 8. **Dojo cho MUST be present for a student to test, the dojo cho will also be part of that test committee, either in observation capacity or actual voting capacity if sandan or above in rank.**
 9. All test candidates must complete the following prior to testing:
 - Examination application form must be completed legibly and submitted to your instructor
 - Examination fee must be paid
 10. All Dan testing will be conducted by Sato Sensei and either the AWA national test committee or an approved test committee.
 11. NO application for promotion testing will be accepted by the test committee without the knowledge and consent of the candidate's instructor.
 12. Minimum age for shodan is 16 years, yondan 22 years.
 13. ALL dan rank testing must be confirmed with Sato and dojo cho before making application.
 14. **ALL dan applications MUST BE submitted two months prior to test date** in typed format. **Past due date submission** of application or handwritten applications will be returned, which **may delay your opportunity to test** for requested rank status.

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ADULTS KYU AND DAN TEST REQUIREMENTS

Sandan – Black Belt, 3rd Degree

Time and Events Requirements

- Minimum 36 months and 125 hours as Assistant Instructor since earning Nidan
- Attendance at 3 Yudansha kai OR Instructor seminars since earning Nidan**
- Attendance at 3 AWA Seminars since earning Nidan**
- **** (minimum 10 hours attendance at EACH Yudansha kai, minimum 6 hours attendance at EACH AWA seminar)**

One written essay required:

“How has Aikido become part of your philosophy?”

Technique

- **Test Committee Request** - Free demonstration from Shodan requirements, nage waza & katame waza; minimum five arts
- **Katatekosatori** – Free demonstration, nage waza & katame waza; minimum five arts
- **Jo Nage** - “Throwing with the staff;” free demonstration
- **Kumijo** - Staff versus staff forms (5)
- **Kumitachi** - Sword versus sword forms (6)
- **Randori** - Defense against multiple attackers (6)

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 5. All tests are CUMULATIVE; you must be prepared to demonstrate exercises and techniques from all ranks prior to the one for which you are actually testing.
 6. Requirements for attendance at AWA Aikido Seminar, Camps and AWA events when required need to be fulfilled OR will delay your opportunity to test for requested rank status, specifically dan testing.
 7. **While attendance requirements may appear demanding it is for the best interest of the student to be seen, taught and mentored by Sato sensei & the Technical Committee to help insure each student succeeds in passing their dan test examination.**
 8. **Dojo cho MUST be present for a student to test, the dojo cho will also be part of that test committee, either in observation capacity or actual voting capacity if sandan or above in rank.**
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 12. Minimum age for shodan is 16 years, yondan 22 years.
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ADULTS KYU AND DAN TEST REQUIREMENTS

Yondan – Black Belt, 4th Degree

Time and Events Requirements

- Minimum 48 months and 300 hours as Assistant Instructor since earning Sandan
- Attendance at 4 AWA seminars OR camps since earning Sandan**
- Attendance at 4 Yudansha kai OR Instructor seminars since earning Sandan**
- (minimum attendance: 10 hours at EACH camp OR 6 hours at EACH seminar)

One written essay required:

“The application of Aikido in your daily life”

Interview & Approval of Sato Sensei required

Technique

- **Ushirotekubidori Kubeshime** – Free demonstration, nage waza & katame waza; minimum five arts
- **Kihon Waza** - “Basic technique,” free demonstration; nage waza & katame waza
- **Henka Waza** - “Changing technique,” free demonstration; nage waza & katame waza
- **Oyo Waza** - “Applied or advanced technique,” free demonstration; katatedori ikkyo, katatedori sankyo, shomenuchi ikkyo, shomenuchi iriminage, munetsuki kotegaeshi, katadori ikkyo, yokomenuchi shihonage, yokomenuchi kaitenage
- **Kumi Jo/Ken** - Staff versus sword forms (5)
- **Possible additional test committee requests**

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 3. Many techniques have applications against both static and dynamic attacks, which you must know.
 4. In certain cases a particular variation of a technique is required and is noted above; you are encouraged, however, to demonstrate additional variations.
 5. All tests are CUMULATIVE; you must be prepared to demonstrate exercises and techniques from all ranks prior to the one for which you are actually testing.
 6. Requirements for attendance at AWA Aikido Seminar, Camps and AWA events when required need to be fulfilled OR will delay your opportunity to test for requested rank status, specifically dan testing.
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 13. ALL dan rank testing must be confirmed with Sato and dojo cho before making application.
 14. **ALL dan applications MUST BE submitted two months prior to test date in typed format. Past due date submission of application or handwritten applications will be returned, which may delay your opportunity to test for requested rank status.**