



ASKA / FMAA

Black Belt Testing & Application



Your ASKA Membership must be current

ASKA Membership # _____ ASKA Annual Renewal Date: ____/____/____

- Know your eligibility (see back of form) & meet with Senseis Keller and Verona to review your application and timeline
- Submit application and payments no later than 30 days before your scheduled graduation
- Submit your Black Belt Paper no later than 14 days before scheduled graduation

Current Rank: _____ Testing Rank: _____

Meeting with Sensei: _____

Scheduled Graduation: _____

Due date for application/fees: _____ App/fees submitted: _____

Due date for Black Belt paper: _____ BB Paper submitted: _____

Update your belt size and the spelling of your name as you want it to appear on belt and Diploma.

Belt Size: _____ Name: _____

Contact Sensei Keller if you have any questions or issues with timeline, costs or fees.

FEES (check all that apply):

_____ \$150 for any Black Belt

_____ \$225 Black Belt combined with Kobudo

_____ \$55 for optional Ceremonial Certificate

_____ \$45 ASKA Reinstatement and Renewal

CASH CHECK (payable to ASKA)

Please Charge my Card on file. Signature: _____

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS BOX - OFFICE USE ONLY:

Current Rank: _____ Promoting To: _____ Instructor Initials: _____

Application Submitted Payment Received **Date:** _____

Candidates on track to test can refer to your manual booklets and the <http://www.aska-karate.org/curriculum> for video and informational support. You will also generally receive an updated checklist with your specific requirements from Sensei Mike Verona.

Age and Martial Arts Experience Requirements

In general, the following are the age and experience requirements for advanced ranks in the ASKA. The Executive Committee of the ASKA can wave or adjust requirements that it considers appropriate in individual specific cases; as well as issuing any Honorary Black Belt Degrees.

SENIOR BLACK BELT RANKS

In consideration that maturity in life and in the martial arts is commensurate with Black Belt rank, we have the following requirements around age and black belt experience.

- Senior Shodan - 16 years or older.
- Senior Nidan - 18+ years and 2 years experience as a Senior Shodan.
- Senior Sandan - 21+ years and 3 years experience as a Senior Nidan.
- Senior Yondan, - 30+ years and 4 years experience as a Senior Sandan, 10 years experience as a Black Belt.
- Senior Godan – 35+ years and 5 years experience as a Senior Yondan, 15 years experience as a Black Belt.
- Ranks of Rokudon + are Executive Board decisions.

JUNIOR BLACK BELT RANKS

The Junior Black Belt rank follows dan ratings similar to a Senior Black Belt with the difference being that the suffix “-Ho” is added. Literally translated, “-Ho” means “provisional” but it can be interpreted to also mean “junior.” Therefore, a 1st Degree Junior Black Belt is referred to as a Shodan-Ho.

Typically, the junior ranking is given to candidates who are under the age of 16 but who are otherwise qualified. Currently we require that a Junior Black Belt Candidate be at least 10 years old at the time of testing. In addition to the age requirement, the candidate’s level of mental and “spiritual” maturity is also taken into consideration.

In our program there are three junior ranks: Shodan-Ho, Nidan-Ho, and Sandan-Ho.

The qualifications for these ranks are slightly less than the qualifications for the rank of senior Shodan. Shodan-Ho candidates must be at least 10 years of age. Once the candidate has successfully attained Shodan-Ho, he/she will be eligible to test for Nidan-Ho when they are at least 12 years of age and Sandan-Ho when they are at least 14 years of age. Upon turning 16 years of age, the candidate will then be eligible to test for the senior Shodan rank with the applicable senior requirements.