



AiShinKai



Rank Promotion Examinations (10/25/2010)

Participation in formal testing for rank at **AiShinKai** will consolidate your practice, approximate the stress of real conflict by staging performance under modest pressure, and allow your community to recognize skills that you have achieved. You'll learn a lot about where to direct your practice in the immediate future, and you'll have fun too! Don't be too nervous: remember that we have a vested interest in each student's success and we are looking for reasons to pass you!

Rank promotion exams are generally conducted three times a year. Participation is optional though highly encouraged. A blackbelt panel of your peers administers each test. Eligibility is determined by membership in good standing, completion of minimum time in grade requirements, blackbelt sponsorship, and timely submission of the application, test fee, and required essay by requested deadlines. Applications must be signed by an appropriately-ranked blackbelt sponsor who will be responsible for helping the candidate to prepare. Essays must be neatly hand-written, double-spaced, and submitted on clean, white 8.5x11" paper. While test fees are non-refundable, candidates pay for a certificate and belt only if achieving a passing grade. Ranks are certified by the **AiShinKai**.

Aikido tests consist of a written essay (except children's ranks), ukemi skills, Ki tests, self-defense techniques (including spot checks of all techniques from previous tests), weapons demonstrations, and randori (free-style multiple attack). Candidates should be familiar with all the skills posted for their rank before requesting grading. Bear in mind that technique demonstrations are intended to illustrate target skills for each rank. You should strive to perform all techniques with the particular skills of the rank in mind.

laido tests generally consist of a written essay, and a performance of laido etiquette and technique. The experience is designed to help this programs members to prepare for grading by the Pacific Northwest Kendo Federation, All US Kendo Federation, or All Japan Kendo Federation.

Aiki-ken/Aiki-Jo tests parallel the regular weapons requirements in Aikido, but allows participation and concentration on the principles and philosophy of the art as it applies to weapons - all without falling, and with throwing only at the highest rank levels.

Eligibility to Test

1. AiShinKai membership required (annual \$75 adult; \$40 child - Jan-Dec - reupped each January)
2. Sponsorship by an appropriately-ranked black belt sponsor.
3. Test fee, test application, and required essays (if any) must be submitted by the posted deadline.
4. Dojo member accounts (membership, tuition, and all other required fees) must be current.

Test Fees (revised 10/25/2010)

Upon successful completion of a test, candidates will be awarded a menjo certificate and new belt (if changing color).

Children's Aikido (all ranks) - \$25

Adult Aikido and laido (in-house kyu ranks only)

6th kyu - \$50
5th-1st kyu - \$75
Shodan - \$100
Nidan - \$200
Sandan - \$300

Make payments and checks to "Jonathan Bannister"



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Rank Promotion Test Application

Aikido Adults & Children, Aiki-ken/Aiki-jo, Iaido

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Program _____ Test Date _____
Rank requested _____ Test Location _____

Candidate Information

Name _____ Birth Date _____ Age _____
Exactly as you wish it to appear on your menjyo Gender _____
Address _____ Phone _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
E-mail _____
Occupation _____ Date Joined _____
Employer _____ Registration # _____
Dojo Affiliation _____ Instructor _____
Location of Last Test _____ Dated of Last Test _____
Sponsor _____
Sponsor's Signature _____ Candidate's Signature _____

Essay (150 word max - must be handwritten and submitted with sponsor's approval)

Question: _____

Answer: _____

Sponsor's Initials _____ *Continue on reverse if necessary*
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Organizational Use Only

Sponsored - Yes/No (circle one)
Test Fee - Yes/No (circle one) Amt paid _____ Pass/Fail (circle one)
Essay - Yes/No (circle one) Date Tested _____ Testor _____
Date Tested _____ Provisional Pass (detail) _____
Pass/Fail/Honors (circle one) Retake Date _____