



## USA Karate Dan Certification Policy (approved 11-24-24)

***Any USA NKF member in good standing may request Dan Certification.***

There are two paths to receive Dan Certification from USA NKF.

- 1. DAN HOMOLOGATION**
- 2. DAN TESTING**

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### DAN HOMOLOGATION

USA NKF may homologate (grant reciprocity) to persons possessing a valid Dan Certificate from their style/parent karate organization.

Persons who possess a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Dan from their style/parent karate organization, can apply to have their current Dan certificate homologated. Upon receipt of their existing certificate (submit a picture through email), application and payment, they will be issued an official USA NKF Dan Certificate, and their name will be added to the official USA NKF list of Dan holders. No additional test or action is required. The same applies for Junior Dan certificates, for those karateka under the age of 18.

Persons who possess a 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> Dan certificate from their style/parent karate organization and wish to possess a USA NKF Dan Certificate, must submit their application and payment. Upon receipt, the National Office will notify the Dan Certification Coordinator. The Dan Certification Coordinator will review the application and documents to determine/verify the validity of the homologation of the 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> external Dan Certificate OR state that a Dan Test is required. (See Dan Testing below)

### DAN TESTING

Persons who wish to be tested (either because they do not possess a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Dan Certificate from any other organization, or for 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> Dan holders who the Dan Certification Coordinator determined need to test), may apply and the following procedure will be followed:



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The applicant must fill out the application and submit payment. The National Office will notify the Dan Certification Coordinator and they will assemble a testing panel. The testing panel will consist of 3-4 content experts, in addition to the Coordinator, selected from the official USA NKF List of Examiners.

Dan testing will take place 2-3 times a year at USA NKF Signature Events (USA Open, Nationals, All American Classic), OR via Zoom, dates and criteria would be published in advance and available on [www.usankf.org](http://www.usankf.org)

Dan Certificates would be awarded in person at signature events. If an applicant cannot be present to receive their certificate it will be mailed.

Please see testing criteria document for more specific information.

In the case of 6<sup>th</sup> Dans or higher, USA NKF feels these are only given upon the recommendation and approval of the organization. No fee or test required.

A candidate for 6<sup>th</sup> Dan or higher may be recommended by another person or may self-nominate. These nominations are reviewed by the Dan Certification Coordinator, a group of 3-4 Examiners (the person nominated must recuse themselves) and must be approved by the President and Board of Directors. These certificates will be given out at the next Signature Event after the approval. In the event the recipient is not able to attend, they will be mailed.

#### **FEES:**

1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dan	\$250
4 <sup>th</sup> or 5 <sup>th</sup> Dan	\$500
Junior Dan (under 18)	\$150

***Note: if a Junior Dan certificate holder later wishes to get a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Dan Certificate, they need only pay the difference in cost.***