



# Tsubomi Seishin Kan Dojo

## Rank Promotion Examinations (10/16/2008)

Participation in formal testing for rank in the *Tsubomi Seishin Kan Dojo* will consolidate your practice, approximate the stress of real conflict by staging performance under modest pressure, and allows your community to recognize the skills 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 conducted three times yearly. Participation is optional though highly encouraged. A blackbelt panel of your peers administers each test upon completion by the candidate of minimum time requirements, blackbelt sponsorship, and submission of the application, test fee, and required essay by the deadline. Applications must be signed by an appropriately-ranked blackbelt sponsor who will be responsible for helping each candidate prepare. Essays must be neatly hand-written, double-spaced, and submitted on clean, white 8.5x11" paper. Candidates will be asked to pay for their certificate and belt only if they pass. All ranks are certified by the Tsubomi Seishin Kan Dojo.

**Aikido tests** generally consist of a written essay, ukemi skills, Ki tests, self-defense techniques (including spot checks of the techniques from previous tests), weapons demonstrations, and randori (free-style multiple attack). Candidates may select three of the four techniques listed for their rank to perform, though they should be familiar with all four. 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.

**Iaido tests** generally consist of a written essay, and a performance of Iaido etiquette and technique. The experience is designed to help this programs members to prepare to test in Japan.

**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. Test fee, application, and required essays (if any) must be submitted prior to the administration of tests.
2. Tsubomi Dojo annual membership (\$40 adult; \$20 child - Jan-Dec - reupped each January) required of all candidates.
3. Dojo member accounts (membership, tuition, and all other required fees) must be current to establish eligibility to take a test.

### Test Fees (revised 10/26/2008)

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

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

### Aikido & Aiki-Ken/Aiki-Jo

6th kyu - \$40 + \$40 annual membership = \$80

5th-1st kyu - \$60

Shodan - \$120

Nidan - \$160

Sandan - \$200



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## Rank Promotion Test Application

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



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: \_\_\_\_\_

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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)  
Pass/Fail (circle one)  
Testor  
Essay - Yes/No (circle one)  
Provisional Pass (detail) \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Tested \_\_\_\_\_  
Pass/Fail/Honors (circle one)  
Retake Date \_\_\_\_\_