



Kodokan Martial Arts Student's Anshin Ryu Karate Grading Policy

1. Purpose

This policy outlines the requirements for Anshin Ryu Karate students to be eligible to undertake a belt grading. It ensures consistency, fairness, and high standards across all levels.

2. General Grading Requirements

All students must meet the following criteria before being considered for grading:

- **Recommendation from Sensei**
Students must receive formal approval from their Sensei, confirming readiness in terms of technical ability, attitude, and effort.
- **Minimum Lesson Completion**
Students must complete the required number of lessons for the grade being examined (see Section 3).
- **Valid Association Licence**
Students must hold a current and valid Association Licence.
- **Submission Deadline**
Students must submit their licence book and grading fee no later than 4 weeks prior to the grading date.
 - Failure to meet this deadline may result in the student **not being permitted to grade**, subject to the Sensei's discretion.
- **Correct Attire and Equipment**
Students must attend the grading wearing:
 - A clean and correct **white Gi**
 - All **recommended sparring equipment**, where applicable
- **Knowledge of Syllabus**
Students must:
 - Know their full syllabus
 - Demonstrate the required technical knowledge appropriate to the grade being examined



3. Minimum Lesson Requirements

Students must complete the required number of lessons **after their previous grade** before becoming eligible.

3.1 JUNIORS (MON GRADES)

- White Belt → Blue Belt (2 White Stripes): Minimum of 24 lessons between each grade
- Purple Belt (White Stripe) → Brown Belt (White Stripe): Minimum of 48 lessons between each grade
- Brown Belt (2 White Stripes): Minimum of 96 lessons

3.2 CADETS (KYU GRADES)

- White Belt → Blue Belt (Black Stripe): Minimum of 24 lessons between each grade
- Purple Belt → Brown Belt (Black Stripe): Minimum of 48 lessons between each grade
- Brown Belt (Black Stripe) → Shodan-Ho: Minimum of 96 lessons

3.3 SENIORS (KYU & DAN GRADES)

- White Belt → Blue Belt: Minimum of 24 lessons between each grade
- Purple Belt → Brown Belt (Black Stripe): Minimum of 48 lessons between each grade
- Brown Belt (Black Stripe) → Shodan: Minimum of 96 lessons
- Shodan → Nidan: Minimum of 192 lessons
- Nidan → Sandan: Minimum of 288 lessons
- Sandan → Yondan: Minimum of 384 lessons

4. Grading Assessment and Scoring

4.1 PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT SCORES

Students will be assessed and awarded marks based on the following criteria:

- **Fail:** Below 50%
- **Pass:** 50% – 60%
- **Merit:** 60% – 70%
- **Distinction:** Above 70%



- The **overall grading result** will be determined by the **average score achieved** across all assessed areas.

4.2 THEORY REQUIREMENTS

- Students must achieve a **minimum of 80%** in their theory assessment to pass the grading.
- Where applicable, students must submit **written essays** relevant to their syllabus:
 - Essays must be submitted **at least 4 weeks before** the grading date
- **Failure Conditions:**
 - A pass **will NOT be awarded** if:
 - The theory score is below 80%, or
 - The required essay has not been submitted on time

5. Grading Day Procedure

On the day of the grading:

- Examiners will assess all components of the student's performance
- Scores will be reviewed and discussed collectively
- A **final decision** will be made regarding the student's result

All students will receive **personal feedback** on the day to support their continued development.



6. Additional Notes

Meeting the minimum requirements does **not guarantee** a grading pass

Progression is based on:

- Technical ability and knowing the required syllabus
- Consistency
- Attitude and discipline
- Overall performance

The decision of the Sensei and the grading panel is **final**

7. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if required by changes in legislation or best practices.

Approved by: *Fred Bateman*

Date: 20/03/2026

Next Review Date: 20/03/2027