

What to Expect

For First Time Test-Takers



Here are a few tips to help you and your family understand/prepare for test day...

Before the Test:

- Be sure to note the date/time of your test; plan to arrive with invited guests at least 5-10 minutes before your test time. Test candidates should enter the dojo and sit quietly as to be respectful of others currently testing.
- All test candidates must wear a full gi (pants & top); please ensure that your uniform is clean and you are wearing your current belt.
- Please submit your test fee before or on test day (cash/check/EFC acct).
- **Practice, Practice, Practice!** Regular, devoted practice of techniques learned during training is the best way to make the MOST out of your investment in martial arts...but is *especially important* leading up to any test/promotion.
- Be sure to arrive well-rested, so as to give your best performance!

During the Test:

- Always show your best martial arts etiquette throughout the testing period. Good etiquette should be practiced *at all times* but should be particularly obvious during the test time. Be sure to bow properly and when appropriate, stay alert and be focused on the task at hand.
- Parents in attendance should remain quiet while testing. Any siblings or small children that are distracting will take away from the testing candidates' ability to perform at their best.
- Groups of students (at or about the same rank/level) are tested at the same time in a modified class setting. A panel of judges (OKD instructors) will observe and determine technical proficiency of each student individually, although everyone takes the test at the same time.
- Judges will consider individual skill level and appropriate progression of knowledge. Keep in mind, every student progresses at their own pace and each will be assessed, individually.
- A senior student or instructor will lead the students through the test. Often, the test is simply a shortened, fast-paced version of a regular class/training session.
- **Similar to school, students will either pass or not-pass. If a student does not perform at the expected/required level, they will be asked to re-test at the following month's test date, with no additional test fee required.**
- Upon completion of the test, each student will be called to the judges table to bow before each judge before receiving their rank determination.

After the Test:

- It's normal that students are excited and want to converse with their friends after the test. And we encourage the celebration!! However, please be mindful not to linger inside the dojo as others will be entering to begin/prepare for their test.

We hope this helps!! As always, feel free to contact us if you have any other questions or concerns.