



HAPKIDO WEST
*A Nonprofit Dedicated to
the Martial Art of Hapkido*
Northern California USA
hapkidowest.org

RANK CERTIFICATION

Hapkido West only offers certification to those individuals who clearly meet our rank requirements through testing and/or long-term training. Although we consider rank certification to be the least important aspect of Hapkido training, please recognize that our testing standards are stringent, and reflect our deep commitment to preserving the qualities that have historically defined Hapkido as a whole.

If a school is an affiliate member of Hapkido West, who has adopted our rank and certification standards, they are entitled to obtain color-belt and/or black-belt certificates for their students. If an affiliate-school's students are not being tested by Hapkido West, then we would only issue certificates in the following circumstances: (a) your head instructor must be 4th dan or higher (master-level), and clearly meet our rank requirements for that rank; and (b) you must be able to demonstrate to us that your methods of evaluation are consistent with our standards.

Masters who have received their 4th dan certification from us are authorized to promote all ranks through 2nd dan. Masters holding 5th dan certification from us may promote all ranks through 3rd dan. Please recognize that Hapkido West has no interest in empire-building, or in dictating how a school should conduct its business. Our only reason for providing rank certification is to assist those who wish to make high-quality educational standards a vital part of their Hapkido programs.