



2.27.23 update

MIDTERM & TESTING REQUIREMENTS

All National & World, Rank & Midterm Testing registrations are ONLY AVAILABLE VIA ONLINE REGISTRATION. See instructions below.

Nationals, Spring or Fall - To register go to:

ataonline.com > Click Menu at top left > under Tournament Header choose Fall or Spring Nationals (click on appropriate event title) > choose Midterm or Testing (click Register here button under appropriate title) and complete the form in its entirety (you may need to scroll down to find the registration buttons) > click on submit when done.

ATA Worlds- To register go to:

ataonline.com > Click Menu at top left > under Tournament Header choose World Expo (click on event title) > choose Midterm or Testing (click Register here button under appropriate title) and complete the form in its entirety (you may need to scroll down to find the registration buttons) > click on submit when done.

REGISTRATION SUBMISSION & PROCESSING

Registration Opening & Closing Dates:

EVENT NAME	REGISTRATION OPENING DATE	REGISTRATION CLOSING DATE	INITIAL TEST APPLICANT	RE-TEST APPLICANT	MIDTERM APPLICANT
Spring Nationals Feb / Mar events	August 15	October 15	* 3BD		
	August 15	On – site (late fees apply)	1BD – 2BD	All Re-Tests	All Midterms
Spring Nationals April event	September 15	November 15	* 3BD		
	September 15	On – site (late fees apply)	1BD – 2BD	All Re-Tests	All Midterms
Worlds	November 15	January 15	* 3BD – 7BD		
	November 15	On – site (late fees apply)	1BD – 2BD	All Re-Tests	All Midterms
Fall Nationals	February 15	April 15	* 3BD		
	February 15	On – site (late fees apply)	1BD – 2BD	All Re-Tests	All Midterms

***Initial Test applicants: Applications will NOT be accepted after the registration closing date! NOTE: Fees: see Processing Policy section for details**

Processing Policy:

A. Midterm: ALL Ranks

- ◆ **See page 1 for online registration submission date information.**
- ◆ Registration deadline date is posted on the registration form for each event.
- ◆ Midterm registrations are subject to denial.
- ◆ Approval / denial letters will be sent 5-10 business days after submission of registration.
- ◆ Midterm Fees:
 - \$100.00 per event – Registering no later than the posted deadline date
 - \$150.00 per event – Registering 29 - 8 days prior to the event test date
 - \$200.00 per event – Registering 7 days prior to the event test date or on site
- ◆ 1/1/2022: 4BD and above earning their rank in 2022 or later may receive credit for only one successful midterm per year.

B. Rank Test: Holding current rank 1BD – 2BR – 2BD & Retest ALL ranks:

- ◆ **See page 1 for on-line registration submission date information.**
- ◆ Registration deadline date is posted on the registration form for each event.
- ◆ Rank Test registrations are subject to denial.
- ◆ 1st Review: Approval / denial letters will be sent 5-10 business days after submission of registration.
- ◆ **2nd Review - missing items: Applicant will be reviewed at posted deadline date. Applicant will be denied if 2nd review still shows missing items. This review is final.**

Test Fees:

- ◆ \$200.00 per event – Registering no later than the posted deadline date
- ◆ \$250.00 per event – Registering 29 - 8 days prior to the event test date
- ◆ \$400.00 per event – Registering 7 days prior to the event test date or on site

C. Rank Test - Initial registration: Holding current rank 3rd Deg – 7th Deg:

- ◆ **World and National Registration must be submitted to ATA Headquarters according to the Registration Submission Dates listed on page 1. Late registrations will not be accepted.**
- ◆ Registrations received after event Registration Closing Date will be DENIED.
- ◆ **See page 1 for on-line registration submission date information.**
- ◆ 1st Review: Initial Approval / denial letters will be sent 5 – 10 business days after submission of registration.
- ◆ 2nd Review is done the day following the deadline date: **All testing requirements must be met OR be in house by the events posted deadline date. Applicant will be reviewed at posted deadline date. Applicant will be denied if deadline date review still shows missing items. This review is final, applicant will have to reapply to test at the next event.**
- ◆ Test Fees:
 - Initial Test: \$200.00
 - Retests: See fees listed at page 2, Section B above
 - For Initial Test & Re-Test location/authority - see page 10-11

Rank Testing Requirements By-Rank

- **1ST Degree Decided, testing toward 2R Black Belt**
 - Minimum of 1 year of time in rank as a 1D Black Belt
 - Minimum age requirement to participate at a National or World event – 16 yrs old
 - Minimum of 2 passing mi-terms with a score of 7 or higher
 - ATA membership/Instructor Certification (if applicable) must be in good standing & current
 - Senior Instructor's approval
 - Board Breaking: Any (1) Hand tech. & Any (1) Kicking tech.
 - LICENSEES: All ATA & WMA accounts & testing results must be up to date/paid in full
 - LICENSEES: Legacy Facilitator status must be current
 - Initial test & retest may be done at: In-school / Registered Regional / Nationals & World Events

- **2nd Degree Recommended, testing toward 2D Black Belt**
 - Must pass successfully within 3 testing cycles to 2D Black (Instructor may take student back to 1D Black)
 - Minimum age requirement to participate at a National or World event – 16 yrs. old
 - ATA membership/Instructor Certification (if applicable) must be in good standing & current
 - Senior Instructor's approval
 - Board Breaking: Any (2) Hand tech. & Any (1) Kicking tech.
 - LICENSEES: All ATA & WMA accounts & testing results must be up to date/paid in full
 - LICENSEES: Legacy Facilitator status must be current
 - Initial test & retest may be done at: In-school / Registered Regional / Nationals & World Events

- **2nd Degree Decided, testing toward 3rd Degree Black Belt**
 - Minimum of 2 years of time in rank as a 2D Black Belt
 - Minimum age requirement to participate at a National or World event – 16 yrs. old
 - Minimum of 3 Passing midterms with a score of 7 or higher
 - ATA membership/Instructor Certification (if applicable) must be in good standing & current
 - Senior Instructor's approval
 - Board Breaking: Any (2) Hand tech. & Any (1) Kicking tech.
 - LICENSEES: All ATA & WMA accounts & testing results must be up to date/paid in full
 - LICENSEES: Legacy Facilitator status must be current
 - Initial test & retest may be done at: In-school / Registered Regional / Nationals & World Events

- **3rd Degree, testing toward 4th Degree Black Belt**
 - Minimum of 3 years of time in rank as a 3rd Degree Black Belt
 - Initial test & retest may be done at: In-school, Registered Regional, National & World events.
In school/Regional testing: Prequalification Application submission to ATAHQ is required a minimum of 60 days prior to initial testing.
National & World Test App. must be submitted to ATAHQ 6 months prior to testing
 - Minimum of 3 Passing midterms with a score of 7 or higher
 - Level 1 Legacy Program status or higher
 - Must be 18 yrs. of age or older
 - ATA membership/Instructor Certification (if applicable) must be in good standing & current
 - Senior Instructor's approval
 - Board Breaking: Any (1) Hand tech. & Any (2) Kicking tech.
 - LICENSEES: All ATA & WMA accounts & testing results must be up to date/paid in full.
 - LICENSEES: Legacy Facilitator status must be current

- **4th Degree, testing toward 5th Degree Black Belt**
 - Minimum of 4 years of time in rank as a 4th Degree Black Belt
 - Initial test & retest may be done at: Registered Regional, National & World events.
Regional testing: Prequalification Application submission to ATAHQ is required a minimum of 60 days prior to initial testing.
National & World Test App. must be submitted to ATAHQ 6 months prior to testing
 - Minimum of 3 Passing midterms (see note at bottom of page 5)
 - Certified Instructor Level
 - Instructor Certification must be current & ATA Membership must be in good standing
 - Senior Instructor's approval
 - Board Breaking: Any (2) Hand tech. & Any (2) Kicking tech.
 - Leadership points – 360
 - Accredited National Training Activity Participation must be met, if appropriate - 2
 - LICENSEES: All ATA & WMA accounts & testing results must be up to date & paid in full
 - LICENSEES: Legacy Facilitator status must be current

5th Degree, testing toward 6th Degree Black Belt.

- Minimum of 5 years of time in rank as a 5th Degree Black Belt
- Initial testing must be at a World event. Retest may be done at a registered Regional, National or World event. Regional event: Judge Authority - Must have an ATA Grand Master or Master Council Member and a second judge at least 8BD in rank present and on the testing panel.
- Initial Test Application must be submitted to ATA HQ 6 months prior to the testing event
- Minimum of 3 Passing midterms (see note at bottom of page 5)
- Certified Instructor Level
- Instructor Certification must be current & ATA Membership must be in good standing
- Senior Instructor's approval
- Board Breaking: Must be submitted & approved by the Grand Master before testing
- Leadership point – 450
- Accredited National Training Activity Participation must be met, if appropriate - 5
- LICENSEES: All ATA & WMA accounts & testing results must be up to date & paid in full.
- LICENSEES: Legacy Facilitator status must be current

Accredited
Seminars
GF 1.1.13
PG 7

◆ **6th Degree, testing toward 7th Degree Black Belt**

- Minimum of 6 years of time in rank as a 6th Degree Black Belt
- Initial testing must be at a World event. Retest at National or World events.
- Initial Test Application must be submitted to ATA HQ 6 months prior to the testing event
- Minimum of 4 Passing midterms (see note at bottom of page 5)
- Certified Instructor Level
- Instructor Certification must be current & ATA Membership must be in good standing
- Senior Instructor's approval
- Board Breaking: Must be submitted & approved by Grand Master before testing
- Leadership points– 540
- Accredited National Training Activity Participation must be met, if appropriate - 6
- LICENSEES: All ATA & WMA accounts & testing results must be up-to-date & paid in full.
- LICENSEES: Legacy Facilitator status must be current

Accredited
Seminars
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PG 7

7th Degree, testing toward 8th Degree Black Belt

- Minimum of 7 years of time in rank as a 7th Degree Black Belt
- Initial testing must be at a World event. Retest at National or World event
- Initial Test Application must be submitted to ATA HQ 6 months prior to the testing event
- Minimum of 4 passing midterms (see note at bottom of page 5)
- Certified Instructor Level
- Instructor Certification must be current & ATA Membership must be in good standing
- Senior Instructor's approval
- Board Breaking: Must be submitted & approved by the Grand Master before testing
- Leadership points – 630
- Accredited National Training Activity Participation must be met, if appropriate - 7
- LICENSEES: All ATA & WMA accounts & testing results must be up-to-date & paid in full.
- LICENSEES: Legacy Facilitator status must be current

Midterm
GF 6.10.14
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◆ **7th Degree Black Belt Midterms:**

- If an individual attained the rank of 7th Degree Black Belt on or after July 10, 2014;
 - Minimum of 4 passing midterms (see note at bottom of page 5)
 - Midterms should be a maximum of 21 months apart (84 months divided by 4 midterms).
 - ** 7th Degrees who attained rank prior to July 10, 2014 are welcome to participate in midterms, it is optional. The current midterm fees are due at time of registration.

◆ **Note - Passing Midterm Scores:**

- 4BD – 7BD: Midterms done before 10/22/2021 Passing score is 8
- 4BD – 7BD: Midterms done on or after 10/22/2021 Passing score is 7

◆ **Rank Advancement Passing Score – per applicant's current rank:**

- 3BD: Minimum Passing score is 7 to advance to 4BD
- 4BD – 7BD: Minimum Passing score is 8 to advance to next rank.
- Initial Test & Re-Test Policy - see page 10

- ◆ **Steps to becoming a 9th Degree**
 - Chief Masters are reviewed, selected and then nominated by the Presiding Grand Master and the Grand Master members of the Masters Council
 - The selection process takes place during Spring Nationals each year.
 - Rules for Eligibility
 - 3 Masters in Lineage
 - Time in grade – 8 years (as an active member)
 - Minimum age 56
 - Invitation is given at Worlds – 12 months prior to Martial Arts Presentation
 - After receiving invitation, the invitee has 30 days to fill out the formal application
 - Official Martial Arts Presentation (Testing Demonstration) during World's – one year after approval by Council

Physical Performance Elements:

Rank Test – Perform 3

- ◆ Traditional Form (required)
- Traditional Free Sparring
- Traditional Board Breaking
- Protech

Midterm Test – Perform 3 (your choice)

- Traditional Form
- Traditional Free Sparring
- Traditional Board Breaking
- Protech

- A total of 3 Elements must be performed during a midterm or rank test at a National or World event.
- During rank testing, you must perform your Taekwondo Form as one of the 3 Elements
- During midterm testing, you may substitute Protech for Taekwondo Form - in which case, it will be worth a maximum of 4 points.
- When rank testing, if you do not break all stations within the three attempts, you will receive a No Change
- If you cannot spar or break boards for medical reasons, you may replace one Element with Protech Curriculum. (This must be approved by your instructor and the Presiding Grand Master prior to the midterm or rank testing.)
- Men and women 60 and older may go down one color for board breaks (women to green, men to blue).
- 1/1/2022: 4BD and above earning their rank in 2022 or later may receive credit for only one successful midterm per year.
- Test Score by Element:

Element	Min – Max Score	Attributes to Judge
Taekwondo Form	0 - 4	Eye Contact/Focus, Proper Technique, Balance, Speed, Power, Rhythm & Presentation, Timing
Protech Form	0 - 3	Eye Contact/Focus, Proper Technique, Balance, Speed, Power, Rhythm & Presentation, Timing
Free Sparring	0 - 3	Reading Opponent, Defense, Offense, Timing, Setting-up, Endurance
Board Breaks	0 - 3	3 – all boards broken on first attempt, 2 – all boards broken on second attempt 2 – all boards broken on third attempt 0 – none or partial break

Initial test - Re-Test location/authority - see page 10-11

Accredited National Participation

- ◆ 1/1/2013: All Black Belts age 18 years and up, awarded the rank of 4th Degree through 7th Degree Black Belt on or after January 1, 2013 are required to participate in Accredited National Leadership Training Activities as a requirement for their next rank testing.
- ◆ **Current Rank Required QTY; Accredited Training Participation Activities**
 - 4th Degree Black Belt 2
 - 5th Degree Black Belt 5
 - 6th Degree Black Belt 6
 - 7th Degree Black Belt 7
- ◆ Accredited National Training Activities are limited to the following ATA HQ hosted events with the specific names of (will garner one credit per event date):
 - World Conference
 - Spring & Fall Nationals Training Seminar Topics
 - National Leadership Camp – ATA HQ hosted
 - National Protech Camp – ATA HQ hosted
 - Korea Trips – ATA HQ hosted
- ◆ The Master Title requires Accredited National Training Activity Participation. For a new 6th Degree to get the title of Master, 9 accredited seminars, OR average numbers of 200 are required. Seminars are tabulated via an individual's combined 4th and 5th degree participation (see next paragraph for important information).

Keep in mind that the minimum accredited seminars for a 4th degree to rank test is two (2). If, as a 4th Degree, an individual's goal is to get the Master Title – he/she should plan to do 1 accredited training activity per year for a total of 4 (or know that he/she will have to do extra's in another year to make up the difference – or wait extra years for the title while the difference is made up).

- ◆ Senior Master Title requires 6 Accredited National Training Activities or average numbers of 500. Seminars are tabulated via an individual's 6th degree time in rank.
- ◆ Chief Master Title requires 7 Accredited National Training Activities or average numbers of 1000. Seminars are tabulated via an individual's 7th degree time in rank.
- ◆ Grand Master Title Requirements
 - Member of the ATA Hall of Fame
 - 9 Masters in Linage
 - Time in grade as a 9th Degree – 1 year

Leadership Points:

- ◆ Leadership Points accrue starting at an individual's date of rank, forward to their next testing date. Once an individual changes rank, point accumulation starts over from that new "date of rank". Leadership points can be obtained through, but are not limited to, a combination of the following;
 - Testing numbers
 - New member numbers
 - Tournament judging

- Testing guest judging
- World Conference
- Leadership Academy
- Legacy Academy
- National Camp participation
- Instructor Certification Camps
- Protech Seminars
- RAT / Elite Seminars
- Instruction Seminars
- Business Seminars
- Protech Certification/Camp
- Program/Material development (via HQ)
- Oversea activities (hosted by HQ – ie. Korea Trip)
- Community Service (documentation or newspaper article required)

Leadership Point Requirements by Rank
Current Rank Minimum Required Leadership Points

- 4th Degree Black Belt = 360
 - 5th Degree Black Belt = 450
 - 6th Degree Black Belt = 540
 - 7th Degree Black Belt = 630
 - 8th Degree Black Belt = 720
- ◆ There IS NO Grandfather clause – individuals will not receive permission to test until the total required leadership points for their rank has been achieved.
 - ◆ Individuals that fall short at the end of their required time in rank minimum must wait the extra year or years it takes to reach the required total for their rank.
 - ◆ To test, individuals do not have to acquire leadership points in testing or new member numbers, they can make up the numbers by achieving points in other activities.
 - ◆ Leadership points are NOT needed as a Master Title Requirement

Leadership Point Accumulation

- ◆ Numbers (are tabulated from the last full calendar year prior to testing date)
 - 4BD 100 new members or a test number average of 100 (600 yearly total)
 - 5BD 300 new members or a test number average of 200 (1200 yearly total)
 - 6BD 1000 new members or a test number average of 200 (1200 yearly total)
 - 7BD 3000 new members or a test number average of 500 (3000 yearly total)
 - 8BD 6000 new members or a test number average of 1000 (6000 yearly total)
 - Meeting 10% of required numbers = 5 Leader points per year time in rank
 - Meeting 20% of required numbers = 10 Leader points per year time in rank
 - Meeting 30% of required numbers = 15 Leader points per year time in rank
 - Meeting 40% of required numbers = 20 Leader points per year time in rank
 - Meeting 50% of required numbers = 25 Leader points per year time in rank
 - Meeting 60% of required numbers = 30 Leader points per year time in rank
 - Meeting 70% of required numbers = 35 Leader points per year time in rank
 - Meeting 80% of required numbers = 40 Leader points per year time in rank
 - Meeting 100% of required numbers = 50 Leaders Points per year time in rank

- ◆ Personal Improvement / Leadership Activities – but not limited to
 - 15 Points Leadership Camp
 - 15 Points World Conference
 - 15 Points Protech Camp
 - 15 Points Korea Trips hosted by HQ
 - 10 Points RAT Camps
 - 10 Points Elite Training Camps
 - 10 Points Master's Gathering - Jacksonville, FL annual Jan event
 - 10 Points National Instructor Certification Upgrade/Re-cert Camps
 - 5 Points Regional Camps/Seminars - Max 20 points per year
 - 5 Points Instruction Seminars – Max 20 points per year
 - 5 Points Business Seminars - Maximum 20 points per year
 - 5 Points Protech Seminars - Maximum 20 points per year
 - 5 Points MASS Training Seminar – Maximum 10 points per year

- ◆ Leadership Credit Points: Tournament Judging or Staff
 - 1 Point Per Ring Judged at Regional's – Max 20 per year
 - 2 Points Per Ring Judged at Nationals – Max 14 per year
 - 3 Points Per Ring Judged at Worlds – Max 12 per year

- ◆ Regional Testing Guest Judge
 - 5 Points Guest Judge at a test – Max 20 points per year
 - ** Make sure to keep your own records of dates and locations!

- ◆ Leadership Role for ATA – but not limited to
 - 10 Points National Tournament Staff – No Maximum limit
 - 10 Points Instruction Camp Representative – No Maximum limit
 - 10 Points Protech Representative – No Maximum limit
 - 10 Points National/World Testing Panel Judge – No Maximum limit

- ◆ Contributions to Organization
 - 10 Points Development of new programs – No Maximum limit

- ◆ Community Participation
 - 10 Points Community Outreach – No Maximum limit

A letter from community leader or newspaper article required as verification

- ◆ Personal Improvement Seminars – Non-ATA hosted (Krav Maga, Leadership, etc.)
 - At this time points will not be awarded however, these “other” seminars may be taken into consideration by the Grand Master in making his final decision towards approval.

- ◆ Leadership points are NOT needed as a Master Title Requirement.

- ◆ Personal Improvement Seminars – Non-ATA hosted (Krav Maga, Leadership, etc.)
 - At this time points will not be awarded however, these “other” seminars may be taken into consideration by the Grand Master in making his final decision towards approval.

Approved Locations and Authority for Midterms

Current Rank	In-School	Regional	National's	World's	Note	Min. Judge Authority
1D Black Belt	X	X	X	X	**	2, 3 rd Deg.
2R Black Belt	X	X	X	X	**	2, 4 th Deg.
2D Black Belt	X	X	X	X	**	2, 4 th Deg.
3 rd Degree Black Belt	X	X	X	X	**	2, 5 th Deg.
4 th Degree Black Belt		X *	X	X	*****	2, 6 th Deg.
5 th Degree Black Belt		X *	X	X	*** *****	2, 7 th Deg.
6 th Degree Black Belt		X *	X	X	*** *****	2, 8 th Deg.
7 th Degree Black Belt		X *	X	X	****	***
8 th Degree Black Belt			X	X	****	National or World Judges Panel

*** Special Note:**

Participation will be void if host did not pre-register the Regional event date.

**** Special Note:**

Minimum age requirement to participate at a National or World midterm is 16 years old.

***** Special Note:**

As of August 2014, 5th - 7th Degree Black Belts may do midterms at an officially Registered Regional event.

- 1.1.2022: 4BD and above earning their rank in 2022 or later may receive credit for only one (1) successful midterm per year.
- See judging authority as listed in chart above for 5th and 6th Degree participants
- 7BD midterm requires 1 Grand Master or Master Council member and 2 8BD judges on the testing panel.

****** Special Note:**

To have full promotional authority, the judge's panel at a National or World event must have a minimum of 5 Master Council Members.

******* Special Note: Registering a Regional test/midterm event.**

Regional host must contact ATA HQ School Operations Department to register an event date 30 days prior to the event. Host must secure appropriate judging authority according to rank participation (see chart above). Participation will be void if host does not pre-register the event.

Approved Locations & Authority for Initial Rank Test & Re-Testing

Current Rank	Test For	In School	Regional	Nationals	World's	Note	Min. Judge Authority
1D Blk.	2R Blk.	X	X	X	X	*	1, 4 th Deg.
2R Blk.	2D Blk.	X	X	X	X	*	1, 4 th Deg.
2D Blk.	3 rd Deg.	X	X	X	X	*	2, 5 th Deg.
3 rd Deg.	4 th Deg.	First Test Re-test	First Test Re-test	First Test Re-test	First Test Re-test	** *****	2, 6 th Deg.
4 th Deg.	5 th Deg.		First Test Re-test	First Test Re-test	First Test Re-test	*****	2, 7 th Deg
5 th Deg.	6 th Deg.		Re-test only	Re-test only	First Test Re-test	*** *****	***
6 th Deg.	7 th Deg.			Re-test only	First Test Re-test	*** *****	****
7 th Deg.	8 th Deg.			Re-test only	First Test Re-test	*** *****	****

*** Special Note:**

Minimum age requirement to participate at a National or World test is 16 years old.

**** Special Note:**

- 1.1.2021: The first test & re-test, **to attain** the rank of 4th Degree, may take place at either:
- In-School testing (prequalification application submission to ATA HQ is required)
 - Registered Regional events (prequalification application submission to ATA HQ is required)
 - National (spring or fall) or World Tournament events

***** Special Note:**

- 1.1.2021: The first test & re-test, **to attain** the rank of 5th Degree, may take place at either:
- Registered Regional events (prequalification application submission to ATA HQ is required)
 - National (spring or fall) or World Tournament events

The first test, **to attain** the rank of 6th Degree through 8th Degree must take place at;

- A Worlds event. As of 8/13/2012 it is not available at any other event.

8/1/2016: Re-test, to attain the rank of 6th Degree, may be done at an official Registered Regional Event if:

- There is an ATA Grand Master or Master Council member sitting on the testing panel,
- There is a 2nd judge on the panel holding the minimum rank of 8th Degree

****** Special Note:**

To have full promotional authority, the judge's panel at a National or World event must have a minimum of 5 Master Council Members.

******* Special Note: Registering a Regional event.**

Regional host must contact ATA HQ School Operations Department to register an event date 30 days prior to the event. Host must secure appropriate judging authority according to rank participation (see chart above). Participation will be void if host does not pre-register the event.

PREQUALIFICATION APPLICATION: Licensees - Find the application link via AMA > School Operations Documents > Testing Documents > scroll down to appropriate year, click to open.