

Congratulations on your AWESOME achievement. We are ecstatic you have made it this far, welcome to the black belt club. Here are a few things you should know now that you have reached this goal in your training:

1. What's the black belt uniform?

Once earning the 1st Dan Recommended Black Belt, students are required to purchase a heavyweight, personalized uniform top and black pants before their 2nd degree test (one year after earning 1st Dan Recommended Black). Black belt students have the option of purchasing black sparring gear (head, hands, feet) if desired. The uniform package on our app includes 1 heavyweight personally embroidered uniform top with all required patches sewn on & white pants. Black pants are optional, and may be purchased in our app.

***Refunds/exchanges/credits will not be issued for personalized uniforms. ***

2. <u>Do I have to purchase a uniform?</u>

Not immediately. The personalized uniform is required to test for 2^{nd} dan, you will remain at 1^{st} Dan for at least 1 year prior to testing for 2^{nd} Dan. You may wear your regular Allstar uniform up to your 1^{st} Dan Senior MT2 test.

3. Do I have to purchase the black gear/pants?

No, it's your choice! Black gear & pants are a black belt privilege, not a requirement. However, you might also want to consider getting shin guards and elbow pads. You are a black belt now, it's time to start competing at National Tournaments and shin guards/elbow pads are required for nationals.

4. Do I have to switch classes?

The only intermediate & advanced classes we *do not allow* black belts in are held Monday through Thursday at 4:45 PM - pick any class except those.

5. Do I have to attend the black belt prep & leadership (patterns) class?

No! Every rank test from now on, you only perform one pattern! You may bump your tuition back down to what it was prior to your advanced red belt (see the desk to do so). However, black belts still must attend at least 24 classes in the cycle they wish to test for their next rank.

6. <u>Is black belt testing different?</u>

As a black belt, you are held to the highest standards. When it comes test time, you must break your board within 3 attempts – no extra attempts will be given. If you do not break, your test result is a no change. Other than breaking, the other aspects of your test are the same, but the standards are higher. Embrace these higher standards we have set in place knowing that you will become a better person after having learned the lessons this process teaches.