



UNITED STATES JUDO ASSOCIATION

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Rank Examiner Certification Program

Purpose: The Rank Examiner Certification Program serves to train black belts in all techniques of the USJA Senior Rank System so they are able to examine others thoroughly and fairly.

Certification: Rank Examiner certification at the appropriate level is available to USJA members Yodan rank and higher.

Examiner Certification Levels: There are three levels of Rank Examiner: Senior, National, and Master.

Senior Rank Examiner: Judoka of Yodan rank or higher who have completed the Rank Examiner Program and passed the background check are authorized to examine and recommend for promotion USJA members up to and including one rank below their own.

National Rank Examiner: Judoka of Godan rank or higher who have completed the Rank Examiner Program and passed the background check are authorized to examine and recommend for promotion USJA members up to one rank below their own. They are authorized to certify Senior Rank Examiners.

Master Rank Examiner: Judoka of Rokudan rank or higher who have completed the Rank Examiner Program at least three times and passed the background check are authorized to examine and recommend for promotion USJA members up to one rank below their own. They are authorized to certify Senior and National Rank Examiners. Master Rank Examiner candidates must be recommended by two Master Rank Examiners to the Board of Directors, who vote whether to approve. Three Master Examiners are needed to recommend to the National Promotional Board candidates above Rokudan.

Certification Requirements: Candidates must be USJA members holding minimum judo rank of Yodan. Judoka may take the training as a promotion examination. Examiner certifications are awarded for four years and must be renewed by retaking the course.

Who May Conduct Rank Examiner Evaluation and Certification Activities: Any Rank Examiner may evaluate USJA members for promotion up to ranks indicated above. Rank Examiners may evaluate and certify USJA members to Examiner levels as indicated above.

Evaluation Procedures: The Rank Examiner conducting training typically will have on the mat several Rank Examiners who previously have gone through the training or high ranking black belts who know all the techniques. In such instances the examiner will divide participants into smaller groups, each to be directed by a qualified examiner.

Generally the examiner will demonstrate each technique in the USJA rank system. After each demonstration, the leader of each small group will demonstrate and explain the technique and then ask participants to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the examiner.

If the group is small enough, the examiner will demonstrate each technique and request each participant to perform similarly.

Fee: Send \$25 with the application to the USJA National Headquarters.

Preparation: Candidates should study the *USJA Senior Rank System Handbook* before attending Rank Examiner Certification training. Direct any questions to the USJA National Headquarters.

Serving American Judo since 1954