

Hombu Dojo provides dojos/organizations two ways of becoming affiliated with them (capable of receiving rank.)

**The two ways are:**

1. Hombu Official recognition
2. Direct affiliation

## **Hombu Official Recognition Requirements (Footnotes in BOLD)**

Source: <http://www.aikikai.or.jp/eng/about/revise.html>

**(Restructured for easier reading)**

- (1) The relevant Aikido organization has been established legally and has had more than five years of substantial Aikido activity since its establishment. It is not a single dojo of an individual person. **\*They must also have been officially separated away from their original organization for more than 5 years.**
- (2) The relevant Aikido organization has more than one affiliated dojo open to the public, and holds activities throughout the year.
- (3) The head of management or the chief of Aikido instruction of the relevant Aikido organization (hereinafter referred to as the Person in Charge) is 4th dan or above. The Person in Charge is a permanent resident of the country of that organization.
- (4) The relevant Aikido organization has more than one holder of 2nd dan of Aikido or above, who will assist the Person in Charge in establishing the committees for instructing and dan/kyu grading examination.
- (5) The relevant Aikido organization has established Headquarters, Regulations and Directing Committee.
- (6) Issuing of Hombu Recognition to the relevant Aikido organization will not cause any confusion or problem in the organization's country.
- (7) An Aikido organization with Hombu Recognition must inform the Hombu of the establishment of Instructing Committee and Dan/Kyu Examination Committee.

**What Official Hombu Recognition allows an Organization or Dojo to do:**

*An Aikido organization which has been given Hombu Recognition may be eligible to perform the following activities. The extent of possible activities depends on the dan rank of the Person In Charge.*

- (1) Issuing of kyu grades. **\*Meaning they do not need to register the students with Hombu (nor send Hombu the kyu fees) and the kyu certificates are provided by the organization, rather than Hombu. Students will only need to be registered with Hombu once they reach shodan.**
- (2) Examination of dan grades, application and registration of dan grades, and recommendation (non-exam) dan grades.
  - An Aikido organization with Hombu Recognition, when its Person in Charge is 6th dan or above, may conduct examinations from 1st dan to 4th dan. When the Person in Charge is 4th dan or 5th dan, it may conduct examinations from 1st dan to 3rd dan. In the case of a 4th dan examination, an application to the Hombu must be made, and the examination will be conducted by the Hombu or a person delegated by the Hombu.

- With respect to 5th dan and 6th dan, decisions will be made by the Hombu. However, if the Person in Charge of an Aikido organization with the Hombu Recognition is 6th dan, an application for recommendation up to 5th dan can be made to the Hombu . If Person in Charge is 7th dan, application for recommendation up to 6th dan can be made.
- Discussions relating to 7th dan or above are settled separately.
- The method of dan grade examination is based on the Examination Regulations of the Hombu. However, some changes are to be allowed if there is a reason for them.

(6) Certification of instructors

1. An Aikido organization with Hombu Recognition is to have a system for qualifying Shidoiin and Fukushidoiin.

- Shidoiin are persons of 4th dan or above
- Fukushidoiin are persons of 2nd dan or 3rd dan
- **\*Shihan are persons of 6th dan and above**

2. An Aikido organization with Hombu Recognition can issue a Certificate of Appointment to those whom it has appointed Shidoiin and Fukushidoiin.

3. An Aikido organization with Hombu Recognition must report to the Hombu the name and dan grade of those whom it has appointed Shidoiin and Fukushidoiin

4. The Hombu examines and appoints Shihan from among persons who are 6th Dan or above, and who are proficient in practice and instructing. **\*Meaning only Hombu can issue Shihan certificates.**

(7) Receiving assistance from the Hombu

(8) Joint activities with the Hombu concerning Aikido

**Matters to Observe**

1. An Aikido organization which has been given Hombu Recognition must adhere to the following principles.

(1) An Aikido organization which has been given Hombu Recognition must respect and follow the spirit of Aikido established by the Founder, Morihei Ueshiba, and basic principles concerning the dissemination of Aikido established by the Hombu.

(2) Dan grades are legitimated by Aikido Doshu. An Aikido organization which has been given Hombu Recognition must hold in esteem the Aikido dan grades legitimated by the Doshu. The members of that organization must obtain dan grades to be legitimated by Doshu and registered at the Hombu regardless of a situation in which national dan grades are issued by the country or government due to the national legislation or some other reason.

(3) An Aikido organization which has been given Hombu Recognition shall establish a teaching system and examination structure for dan and kyu grades, such as an Instructing Committee and a Dan/Kyu Examination Committee.

(4) An Aikido organization which has been given Hombu Recognition must keep close contact with and cooperate with the Hombu and also with the instructor(s) dispatched by the Hombu staying in its country. Also it shall coordinate and cooperate with the Hombu regarding the acceptance of instructor(s) to be dispatched by the Hombu for a short period.

(5) An Aikido organization which has been given Hombu Recognition shall keep contact, coordinate and cooperate, as appropriate, with other Aikido organization(s) in its country to promote friendly relations. Also it is recommended that a type of umbrella organization for those Aikido organizations should be established.

(6) An Aikido organization which has been given Hombu Recognition shall abide by the provisions of this Regulation in addition to the items mentioned above.

**2. An Aikido organization which has been given Hombu Recognition must submit to Hombu a written agreement mentioning (1) through (6) of the article above.**

## **Direct Affiliation**

This is for dojos that do not satisfy the requirements for Official Hombu recognition.

Examination Abilities/Requirements:

1. All examination fees are to go to Hombu dojo for both kyu and dan, and all members must be registered at 5th kyu. This means that the dojo cannot issue their own kyu certificates, they must all come from Hombu.
2. Must contact Hombu's international department (Mr. Ito) to set up an examination for a delegate prior to testing. The delegate will be recommended by Hombu but they will most likely use an instructor that you already have who is of the necessary rank to test students.