

MINIMUM TIME AND AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR BLACK BELT RANK

<i>If your Current Rank is</i>	Min Age to Test for Next Rank	Minimum Time @ Current Rank
Colored Belts	None	2 years
First Degree Recommended Black	None	1/2 year
First Degree Black Decided **	13 years	1 year
<i>(if less than 13, then the student's total training time from the time they make 1st recommended black belt until the testing date must exceed 1 ½ years by an amount equal to 13 less their current age)</i>		
Second Degree Recommended	13 years	1/2 year
<i>(if less than 13, then the student's total training time from the time they make 1st recommended black belt until the testing date must exceed 1 ½ years by an amount equal to 13 less their current age)</i>		
Second Degree Decided **	18 years	2 years
<i>(if less than 18, then the student's total training time from the time they make 1st recommended black belt until the testing date must exceed 4 years by an amount equal to 18 less their current age and they may only test for Third Degree Recommended)</i>		
Third Degree Recommended	16 -18 years	1 year
(This rank is only required for juniors. A junior who earns the rank of Third Degree Recommended must test again once they reach age 18 for Third Degree Decided Rank.)		
Third Degree	21 years	3 years
Fourth Degree	25 years	4 years
Fifth Degree	30 years	5 years
Sixth Degree	36 years	6 years
Seventh Degree	43 years	7 years
Eighth Degree	51 years	8 years

** Students achieving First and Second Degree Recommended must test again within 12 months from their previous rank testing to achieve permanent status and receive their degree certificate.

*** Any student receiving a No Change must wait at least two (2) months before retesting.

For example, you have an 11 year old black belt - born Aug 1993 who is a 1st degree decided. His training history is as follows:

Age - 11 years, 6 months in Feb 2005.
Began training - Aug 1998 (Total training time is 6 1/2 years.)
Made 1st Recommended - Feb 2002 (This means he has trained as a black belt for 3 years.)

To calculate time short of minimum age: 13yr. - 11 1/2yr. = 1 year, 6 months short

Training time at black belt required before testing: 1 1/2(Normal minimum time) + 1 1/2(Calculated above) = 3 years

He has met the MINIMUM TIME in Feb 2005.

ATTACHED ARE CHARTS THAT DEMONSTRATE HOW TO APPLY THE MINIMUM TIME RULES FOR JUNIOR BLACK BELTS WHO HAVE NOT YET REACHED MINIMUM AGE TO TEST.