There are many aspects of karate for a student and an instructor to explore. The focus of the Instructor Qualification is to provide a program to develop instructors while establishing and maintaining the standards of one’s style. Maintaining and upholding these standards starts with the instructor. To properly teach others, it is very important that instructors continue to train and study karate-do as they expect students to do. Karate-do requires diligent practice over a lifetime. As an instructor, you must be proficient in all aspects of karate-do and understand what and how to teach so students can progress to their next level.

Technical standards are a requirement prior to being a member of the Shintani International Karate Federation. Each organization is required to complete the Technical Standards document for their style, submit it to the Shintani International Karate Federation Technical Committee and receive approval. This is the document that is used as the basis for the curriculum that is taught in that style. The representative for a style is expected to keep this document current. Anyone wishing to obtain an Instructor Qualification must ensure they fully understand the technical standards and must attend one of the Instructor courses.

The Shintani International Karate Federation has four levels in the Instructor Qualification program. These levels include: Instructor D, C, B and A. Table 1 lists the requirements for each class and the privilege it provides.

Table 1: Instructor Qualification and Dan Requirements

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Qualification** | **Class** | **Shintani International Dan Grade** | **Shintani International Instructor Qualification** | **Privilege** |
| **Instructor** | **D** | 2nd Dan | Level D | Qualified to instruct and train at local dojo |
| **C** | 3rd Dan | Level C | Qualified to instruct and train at local and community dojos |
| **B** | 4th Dan / 5th Dan | Level B | Qualified to instruct and train at National level |
| **A** | 6th Dan (at least 1 year at 6th) or higher | Level A | Qualified to instruct and train at National and International level |

In order to receive an Instructor Qualification, the following requirements must be met:

1. Must be a member in good standing with the Shintani International Karate Federation.
2. Must grade and pass a Shintani International Karate Federation Dan Examination.
3. Must attend the Shintani International Karate Federation Instructor course.
4. Must pass the Shintani International Karate Federation Instructor evaluation.
5. Permission must be given from an accredited Shintani International Karate Federation representative.
6. Instructors are required to remain active and attend training seminars regularly.

For more information on the Instructor Qualification, please reach out to Sensei Denis Labbe (dlabbe@shintani.ca) or Sensei Darren Humphries (dhumphries@shintani.ca).