

## Iowa Handwriting Standards

(Iowa is the only state in the country where local districts are able to create their own content standards to guide instruction. Iowa has joined the Common Core State Standards Initiative, a state-led process to develop common English-language arts and mathematics standards. The standards work is expected to be completed in December 2009)

### Update 2009

Sampling of Iowa **school district** handwriting standards:  
(as per [www.clinton.k12.ia.us](http://www.clinton.k12.ia.us))

#### **Clinton Community School District:**

##### **Kindergarten:**

Print upper and lower case letters correctly during handwriting instruction.  
Use appropriate spacing between letters during handwriting instruction.  
Hold pencil correctly.

##### **Grade 1:**

Print upper and lower case letters correctly.  
Use appropriate spaces between words in sentences.

##### **Grade 2:**

Print upper and lower case letters correctly and consistently.  
Write lower case cursive letters correctly during handwriting instruction.

##### **Grade 3:**

Write lower case cursive letters correctly.  
Write upper case cursive letters correctly during handwriting instruction.

##### **Grade 4:**

Write lower case cursive letters correctly and consistently.  
Write upper case letters correctly.

##### **Grade 5:**

Apply the conventions of punctuation in writing.  
Apply the conventions of capitalization in writing.  
Spell designated words correctly in cursive.

**Johnston Community School District:**

(as per [www.johnston.k12.ia.us](http://www.johnston.k12.ia.us))

**Kindergarten:**

The student writes clearly and effectively.

Writes first name beginning with a capital letter.

**Grade 1:**

The student writes clearly and effectively.

Writes a simple sentence with few significant errors in capitalization.

Writes legibly.

**Grade 2:**

The student writes clearly and effectively.

Form and space letters and words in manuscript.

Writes in complete sentences demonstrating effective use of capitalization.

**Grade 3:**

The student writes clearly and effectively.

Form and space letters and words in manuscript and beginning cursive.

Writes in complete sentences demonstrating use of capitalization.

**Grade 4:**

The student writes clearly and effectively.

Writes in complete sentences demonstrating the use of capitalization.

**Grade 5:**

The student writes clearly and effectively.

Writes in complete sentences demonstrating the use of capitalization.