

**LOUISIANA HANDWRITING STANDARDS**  
**As per Louisiana Department of Education:**  
(<http://www.doe.state.la.us/lde/saa/1915.html>)

**Updated 2009**

**PRE-K**

Writing: Standard 2

- Use scribble writing, letter-like forms, dictation, or drawing to represent a word or concept
- Write informal notes, lists, and letters using scribble writing and/or pictures
- Participate in group-shared writing activities that include rhyming and descriptive words
- Scribble write or draw a picture of a life experience or response to a text read aloud

Writing/Proofreading: Standard 3

- Demonstrate consistent top-to-bottom formation for letters or letter-like forms

**KINDERGARTEN**

Writing: Standard 2

- Write informal notes, lists, letters, personal experiences, and stories using developmental/inventive spelling and pictures
- Use rhyme and alliteration in group-shared writing activities

Writing/Proofreading: Standard 3

- Demonstrate an understanding of letter placement in text by writing letters and words from left-to-right and top-to-bottom on a page
- Print all uppercase and lowercase letters
- Print letters and words with proper figure grounding on a line and with appropriate spaces between words
- Identify and use uppercase letters at the beginning of own first and last names

**FIRST GRADE**

Writing/Proofreading: Standard 3

- Write a legible sentence demonstrating proper figure grounding on a line and appropriate spacing between words
- Capitalize the first word of a sentence, names of people, the pronoun *I*, and the names of months and days
- Create phonetically spelled written work that can be read by the writer and others

**SECOND GRADE**

Writing/Proofreading: Standard 3

- Write legible short paragraphs using proper indentation
- Capitalize grade-appropriate proper nouns, initials of a person's name, and the salutation, and closing of a friendly letter

**THIRD GRADE**

Writing/Proofreading: Standard 3

- Write legibly in cursive or printed form, using standard margins and demonstrating appropriate spacing of letters, words, sentences, and paragraphs
- Capitalize the first word in direct quotations and proper adjectives (e.g., American flag, Mexican food)

## **FOURTH GRADE**

Writing/Proofreading: Standard 3

- Write legibly in standard cursive or printed form, indenting paragraphs appropriately, using standard margins, and demonstrating fluency
- Capitalize greetings, titles of respect, and titles of books, articles, chapters, movies, and songs

## **FIFTH GRADE**

Writing/Proofreading: Standard 3

- Use standard English punctuation, including:
  - \_ parentheses and commas in direct quotations
  - \_ commas to set off appositives and introductory phrases
  - \_ use quotation marks around dialogue
- Capitalize the first and other important words in titles and proper nouns
- Write paragraphs and compositions following standard English structure and usage, including:
  - \_ varied sentence structures (e.g., simple, compound) and types (i.e., declarative, interrogative, imperative, exclamatory)
  - \_ agreement of subjects and verbs in complex sentences
  - \_ sentences without double negatives
  - \_ correct sentence fragments and run-on sentences
- Apply knowledge of parts of speech in writing, including:
  - \_ using same verb tense throughout when appropriate
  - \_ selecting and using specific nouns, pronouns, and verbs for clarity