



Using the Supervising Teacher Option

How can I find a supervising teacher?

Do you, or a relative or friend, have an Iowa teaching license?

If so, that license can be used for this purpose.

If not, here are other possible sources to use when searching for a supervising teacher:

- [The Homeschool Iowa website supervising teacher referral request form](#)
- [Your Homeschool Iowa Regional Representative](#)
- Local homeschoolers, support groups, or [Facebook discussion groups](#)
- Homeschool-friendly teachers in your church or local school district

What should I look for in a supervising teacher?

Make sure that your supervising teacher is a good fit for your family.

- Does she understand and accept your philosophy of homeschooling?
- Is she someone with whom you and your children are comfortable?
- Is she knowledgeable of the Iowa law governing homeschooling?
- Does she seem to possess a working knowledge of resources available?
- Is she an effective communicator?
- Is she tactful? Discreet? Dependable? Encouraging?

What can homeschooling parents do to assist their supervising teachers?

- Take the initiative in scheduling and fulfilling the required number of meetings.
- Honor your supervisor's time commitments and carry through on appointments.
- Respect your supervisor's professional merits and compensate her generously.
- Prepare for each face-to-face meeting by gathering dated samples of your child's work to help your supervising teacher determine if adequate progress is being made.
- Write down questions and concerns that you want to discuss with her.
- Follow through on her suggestions and acknowledge her assistance.

What can supervising teachers do to best serve homeschooling families?

- Familiarize yourself with the many approaches and styles of homeschooling.
- Be flexible and open to your homeschooling families' ideas.
Take care not to impose your own personal preferences or agendas upon the families you supervise.
- Always acknowledge that the parents you supervise are the God-ordained teachers in their homes.
- Respect your homeschooling families' time commitments and honor appointments.
- Carefully review student work and offer appropriate comments as needed.
- Maintain a [detailed log](#) of all supervisory visits.
- Take note of questions and concerns shared at each visit, and make efforts to respond with helpful suggestions and resources in a timely manner.
- Provide references to outside sources of assistance, if requested.