# ITWorks Python Coding Standards

The following ITWorks standards must be followed when writing Python code. These standards will ensure that we are developing maintainable, understandable and efficient code in a consistent fashion across developers.

The standards to be used are built on the Python Coding Conventions, refer to these here:

https://www.python.org/dev/peps/pep-0008/

The following contains some emphasised aspects from each section of the coding conventions and ITWorks specific additions. For more information and examples re the aspects from Python refer to the [Python Style Guide](https://www.python.org/dev/peps/pep-0008/#introduction).

# Naming Conventions

## ITWorks Additions

* Variable names - lower\_case\_with\_underscores
* Constants – CONSTANT\_CASE - all uppercase letters, with each word separated from the next by a single underscore

Also refer to https://www.python.org/dev/peps/pep-0008/#naming-conventions

# Layout Conventions

## Emphasised Aspects

* Use the default Code Editor settings (smart indenting, four-character indents, tabs saved as spaces).
* Write only one statement per line

## ITWorks Additions

* None

Also refer to <https://www.python.org/dev/peps/pep-0008/#code-lay-out>

# Commenting Conventions

## Emphasised Aspects

* Use # and a single space for single line comments
* Place the comment on a separate line, not at the end of a line of code.

## ITWorks Additions

* Use documentation strings (docstrings) or block commenting (three double quotations) “”” “”” for several lines of commenting

Also refer to <https://www.python.org/dev/peps/pep-0008/#comments>

# Language Guidelines

## ITWorks Additions

* None