

ICC Government Relations

December 2024

Monthly Update

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Celebrate With Us!

UPDATE YOUR CALENDAR

ICC Leadership Week + 2025 Committee Action Hearings – Group B #1 April 27 – May 6, 2025 Doubletree at the entrance to Universal Orlando, FL

Sign up today to become a Mentor and help shape the next generation of code officials

The International Code Council recently launched an updated mentorship program, an exclusive member benefit designed to support professional growth and strengthen the building safety industry. Whether a Code Council member is looking to advance their career or use their expertise to help shape the industry, the Code Council's mentorship program offers an exciting platform for members to connect, learn and grow.

For Mentees: A path to professional growth

For those seeking guidance in their careers, the <u>mentorship program</u> provides a great opportunity to gain insights from seasoned industry experts. Mentees can benefit from personalized advice, expand their professional network and develop leadership skills that are essential for career advancement. Whether a newcomer to the building safety industry or looking to navigate a new career stage, this program connects members with mentors who can relate and can offer valuable guidance for success. As part of the <u>Code Council's new online member community</u>, finding the right mentor is easier than ever. Mentees can search the online member portal and filter available mentors by professional skills, experience and location, to best align with a mentor who meets their specific goals.

For Mentors: Shaping the future of the industry

By becoming a mentor, you have the opportunity to guide the next generation of building safety professionals by sharing your expertise gained from years of experience. Mentors play a critical role in helping mentees navigate challenges, build confidence and prepare for leadership roles. Mentors can apply to be part of the program through the Code Council's online member community (both seasoned and first-time mentors are highly encouraged to apply). Once accepted, mentors will receive applications from mentees who are seeking to learn from their experience. This is your opportunity to pay it forward to the next generation of building safety leaders!

Read more and sign up here →

Federal government boosts its cost-share for post-disaster repairs and reconstruction

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently enacted an interim policy that would increase the amount of the federal government's cost-share in post-disaster repair and reconstruction for public facilities <u>from 75 percent to 85 percent</u> for communities that have already adopted and currently enforce one of the two most recent editions of the IBC and IECC (or ASHRAE 90.1).

This means that the building safety work you do could bring significantly greater resources to your community during disaster recovery. Why do updated codes matter? FEMA's Building Codes Save report noted the IBC helped avoid more than \$600 billion in losses, while the National Institute for Building Sciences Mitigation Saves study showed \$11 in mitigation savings for every \$1 invested. Three national labs found the IECC can reduce extreme heat deaths associated with disaster-induced power outrages by 80 percent, or extreme cold deaths by 30 percent. FEMA already requires the use of these codes for repair and reconstruction efforts. Providing additional funding for jurisdictions that adopt updated codes recognizes the importance of their mitigation benefits and will incentivize smart planning before disaster strikes. We need your help! Send a comment to FEMA to encourage them to recognize and support modern codes that promote resiliency. Click here for more information. →



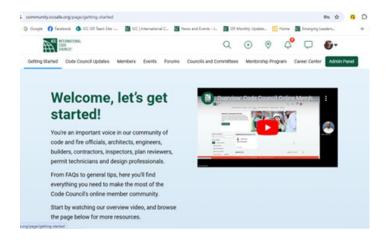
Emory R. Rodgers Fellowship made the difference for John 'JC' Hudgison

In 2019, John "JC" Hudgison set his sights on a new goal: he wanted to go to graduate school and attain a Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree from Troy University. This was no small undertaking – he worked full-time, had a growing family and was concerned about the cost of going back to school. But he understood the value of higher education and started taking classes anyway, and then turned to the International Code Council to help him get across the finish line. Hudgison applied for, and ultimately won, the 2022 Emory R. Rodgers Leadership in Building Safety Fellowship. "It freed me up financially, that was the biggest thing," said Hudgison. "Most of the classes cost around \$1,900 every nine weeks. Having a family of four, trying to figure out how to do that with all the other expenses, [was difficult]. With the Emory R. Rodgers award, I could just take and pass the classes because I had the financial support to get it done."

Read more here →

December 16 is the deadline to apply for the Emory R. Rodgers award

The Code Council is looking for applicants for the Emory R. Rodgers Leadership in Building Safety Fellowship. Awarded annually, the Fellowship provides up to \$20,000 to a Code Council member pursuing an executive-level career path. All applications must be received by Monday, December 16. If you or someone you know is deserving of this opportunity, <u>click here for more information</u> on eligibility and past winners. Learn more about Code Council scholarships for members and their families.



New FREE state-of-the-art online platform available to ICC members

The Code Council launched a new state-of-the-art online Member Community. This platform is a FREE exclusive benefit offered only to Code Council members. This self-service tool helps building safety professionals connect and network with other members, streamline communication and collaboration, create and share events, and more. Members can access the Member Community via MyICC. For any questions, email membercommunity@iccsafe.org.

2024 report illustrates local solutions to housing shortages and affordability

The current shortage of affordable and available housing creates significant challenges for individuals and families, driving up costs and limiting access to stable homes. Housing innovation is essential to overcome these issues by introducing new construction methods, policies and partnerships that can increase supply, lower costs and provide sustainable housing solutions that adapt to diverse community needs. The recently released 2024 Case for Innovation in Housing: How Local Governments Can Drive Solutions explores how local governments can address housing shortages and affordability through innovative strategies. It emphasizes that local governments alone cannot resolve the housing crisis and that a systemic approach is needed to tackle both the causes and effects of this issue. The Code Council plays a vital role in advancing the off-site construction industry, contributing valuable expertise and resources. Its comprehensive suite of standards and guidelines support efficient, affordable and sustainable off-site construction practices, including:

- ICC/MBI Standard 1200 for Off-site Construction: Planning, Design, Fabrication, and Assembly
- ICC/MBI Standard 1205 for Off-site Construction: Inspection and Regulatory Compliance
- ICC/MBI Standard 1210 for Off-site Construction: Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing and Water Conservation for Off-Site Construction
- ICC G6: Guideline on Advanced Panelization

Several of these standards were highlighted in the report and adopted by multiple states as key solutions for advancing off-site construction.

Read more here →



ICC Board of Directors approves new category of Code Council chapters

On October 19, at the International Code Council Board of Directors meeting in Long Beach, California, the Board approved the establishment of the **Native American Code Officials** (NACO) as the first Code Council chapter dedicated specifically to Native code officials. Construction requirements and approaches differ significantly among the 674 federally recognized tribes and over 100 state-recognized tribes across the U.S. This historic decision by the board is a major step toward supporting housing and construction activities on Native lands and prompted a standing ovation in the room. Immediately prior to this action, the Board introduced and approved a new category of <u>Code</u> <u>Council chapters</u>, known as Sovereign Chapters, and NACO now stands as the first Sovereign Chapter. "This historic vote marks a transformative moment for the Code Council and for Native American communities. By establishing the Sovereign Chapter category and welcoming NACO as the first of its kind, we take a significant step toward supporting housing and construction efforts on Native lands," said David Spencer, President of the Code Council Board of Directors.

Read more here →

Code change proposals will be heard April 27-May 6, 2025, in Orlando

The International Code Council is accepting proposed changes to the 2027 Group B International Codes® (I-Codes), with the submission <u>deadline set for 11:59 p.m. PT on January 10, 2025</u>. The I-Codes are a family of 15 coordinated, modern building safety codes that help ensure the engineering of safe, sustainable, affordable and resilient structures. The Code Council's code development process is transparent, accessible and inclusive and all interested parties are encouraged to participate.

- For the full list of I-Codes open for revision in Group B please visit here
- To submit proposals for the Group B codes, please go to cdpACCESS.

Code change proposals will be heard at the Group B Committee Action Hearing #1 April 27-May 6, 2025, in Orlando.



Code Council takes the stage at the recent COP29

Last month, the International Code Council joined global stakeholders participating in the UN Global Climate Change Conference (COP29) for the fourth consecutive year to advance the safety and resilience of the built environment globally to increasingly frequent and severe hazards. While government climate negotiators discussed important issues related to transition, finance, loss and damage and preparation for the next round of carbon reduction commitments, the International Code Council joined with other private sector companies, non-governmental organizations, multilateral financial institutions, standards development organizations and building, construction and disaster mitigation ministry representatives to advance concrete action on building-related initiatives designed to help countries achieve their commitments. The flagship sectoral initiative is the Buildings Breakthrough, which was launched one year ago at COP28. This year, to further enhance global collaboration in the buildings and construction sector and to bolster the activities advancing under the Buildings Breakthrough, the inaugural meeting of the Inter-governmental Council on Buildings and Climate (ICBC) was held on November 20.

Read more here →

GOT PULSE? Bonus episode explores future of building code industry

In this bonus 30th anniversary episode of the ICC Pulse Podcast, we sat down with three influential leaders in the building safety industry to explore the history of the Code Council, advice for growth and success in the industry and the evolving landscape of building safety.

- ☐ Gerry Jones, retired code official and engineer with over 40 years of dedication to the building safety.
- ☐ Pete Roque, National Director of Code Enforcement at 4Leaf, Inc.
- ☐ Serena Locke, Permit Technician at Jackson County, Oregon.



Recorded live at the 2024 International Code Council Annual Conference in Long Beach, CA, this episode features insights from industry professionals who have shaped the building safety industry in the past, are driving impactful initiatives in the present day and whose work will help define the industry's future. Listen to Episode 60 of the ICC Pulse Podcast, *The Code Council's Past, Present and Future*, here.

ICC Plumbing, Mechanical, and Fuel Gas Updates

2021 International Fuel Gas Code Chapter 3: General Regulations

Appliances regulated by the International Fuel Gas Code (IFGC) must be *listed* and *labeled* for the application in which they are used unless otherwise *approved* in accordance with <u>Section 105</u>. The approval of unlisted appliances in accordance with <u>Section 105</u> shall be based on *approved* engineering evaluation. A fundamental principle of the IFGC is the reliance on the listing and labeling process to help ensure appliance performance; approvals granted in accordance with <u>Section 105.2</u> must be well justified with supporting documentation. To the code official, the installer and the end-user, very little is known about the performance of an appliance that is not tested and built to an appliance standard.

Read more here →

To subscribe to the bimonthly ICC PMG newsletter, just click here.

ICC Family of Solutions Updates

Wishing you a successful year end ICC Community Development

As you enter this busy holiday season, remember ICC Community Development is here to help with your code enforcement, ePermitting, workflow and document management needs. To learn more, visit our website for the latest list of on-demand-or-live-webinars.

Website: Municity | ICC CDS (icc-cds.com)
Webinar: https://icc-cds.com/webinars/

Quick Consult features can speed up workflow with expert insights

The ICC Family of Solutions introduces <u>Premium Answers Quick Consult</u> – a new paid service providing reliable answers to critical code questions. This fast, personalized service provides expert opinions on ICC codes exactly when you need them. Whether you're clarifying compliance requirements or facing unique challenges, Premium Answers Quick Consult ensures you have code confidence when you need it most.

- Expert Guidance: Access industry-leading experts for code opinions you can trust.
- Personalized Answers: Receive responses tailored to your unique questions and project needs. Our
 experts will provide a professional opinion of how the codes apply to your specific circumstances.
- Fast Responses: Get answers within two business days, keeping your projects on schedule

Read more here →

Stay connected with the Code Council!

Want to stay up-to-date on all things International Code Council? Connect with us on our other social media channels to engage, learn, and stay informed:

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/international-code-council/

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/intlcodecouncil/

X: https://twitter.com/IntlCodeCouncil

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