

What Is The **INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL (ICC)**?

The International Code Council is a global organization with a 150 year commitment to building safety.

- Dedicated to all aspects of building safety including fire prevention, plumbing and sanitation, property maintenance, energy efficiency, and resilience.
- Mission: To provide the codes, tools, and resources that members rely on, building safety professionals turn to, and manufacturers and the public trust.
- Administers the development and maintenance of 15 model codes and a growing number of standards used to construct residential and commercial buildings including schools and hospitals, and covering innovations in areas such as resiliency, sustainability, and offsite construction.
- Non-governmental organization.
- 64,000 members.
- 394 state and local chapters throughout the United States, 11 international chapters.
- Through its Family of Solutions, enables jurisdictions globally to adopt, implement and enforce a strong building safety ecosystem.

The International Codes (I-Codes)

- 15 integrated, performance-based model codes that set minimum requirements for building design, construction and operation to protect public health, safety and the natural resources that sustain us.
- The most widely-used building codes in the world – adopted by all 50 states and numerous federal government agencies in the U.S., and used as the basis for or incorporated by reference in the codes of dozens of international jurisdictions.
- Updated every three years utilizing a governmental consensus process, compliant with the World Trade Organization agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade.
- Reference prescriptive standards – the adoption of the I-Codes facilitates the application of thousands of consensus standards.
- Local adoptions include the Abu-Dhabi National Building Code, Saudi Building Code, and Gulf Building Code (upcoming).

The Importance of Strong, Updated Building Codes

- According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the average person spends nearly 90% of their life inside buildings.
- Updated codes promote safe, resilient, efficient and cost effective construction.
- The process of updating model codes every three years is optimal to ensure new technologies, materials and methods can be incorporated into the next generation of buildings to help us build better, smarter buildings as cost effectively as possible.
- Research has shown that strong building codes are our first and best line of defense against natural disasters.
- A National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS) study concluded, on average, every \$1 spent on mitigation at the federal level saves \$11 in disaster relief.

Successful Code Implementation

- **Product Testing & Evaluation.** The ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES), a subsidiary of the International Code Council, provides technical evaluations of building products, components, methods, and materials. The technical reports that are issued through the evaluation process provide invaluable information and assurance to both regulatory agencies and building product manufacturers because they directly address the issue of code compliance. ICC-ES also has growing programs for evaluation of plumbing, mechanical, and fuel gas products, and of “green” building products.
- **Personnel Certification.** The ICC Assessment Center offers examinations to professionals who wish to obtain licensing, professional certification or otherwise demonstrate their knowledge of a specific skilled trade or subject matter. Tests are available 24/7 online through the innovative PRONTO remote proctoring system. Specialized certifications can be developed in conjunction with licensing and oversight agencies.
- **Accreditation Services.** The International Accreditation Service (IAS), a subsidiary of the International Code Council, is available to satisfy local and regional accreditation requests in cooperation with official government accreditation agencies. IAS has accredited testing labs, building departments, special inspection agencies, product certification agencies and many other entities in accordance with ISO/IEC 17020, 17021-1, 17024, 17025, and 17065 standards, as well as to specific references in the building codes. Additionally, the team at IAS has the capability to develop customized programs to serve specific industry groups.
- **Training.** The International Code Council is uniquely qualified to provide training – offered either in-person, online or through webinars – on various aspects of the International Codes. Our Learning Center offers dozens of customized training courses, and can also develop custom curricula based on special requirements or customized codes.
- **Consulting.** Jurisdictions around the world have worked with ICC to develop custom codes and to develop and implement programs that enable them to effectively enforce building codes and standards. ICC technical staff also regularly provide technical support and clarification of the I-Codes text or code-related consulting services for code officials, design professionals and members of the the construction industry. ICC engineering staff can also be contracted to perform third party plan review and structural design assessments for jurisdictions and design professionals.

- **Software & Technology.** ICC’s rapidly expanding digital library of codes, standards, and resources enables building safety and design professionals to work and collaborate remotely. With 24/7 access, users have unencumbered capability to utilize the advanced, interactive tools and features included in the database platform.

The International Code Council Facilitates Building Safety



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