

The IECC: A Life-Safety Code That Pays 100 Years of Dividends to Occupants & Our Nation

Buildings use 40% of America's energy and last 100+ years, so constructing them to be as efficient as possible is important. How officials from jurisdictions across the nation vote on the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) this year will impact family budgets, housing markets, and the American economy as a whole for generations to come. Updating the IECC every three years keeps it up-to-date with modern technology and building practices and helps protect us where we work and live by assuring that new buildings are more durable, safe, and affordable. Here's how the IECC affects our health, safety and welfare.

The IECC Benefits Our Safety and Health

Saving lives during extreme weather crises and power outages. A tight, well-insulated building maintains indoor temperatures longer, protecting people who are "sheltering in place."

Improved durability. Energy codes help with moisture management so buildings last longer. Uncontrolled air leaks and moisture enter framing cavities if not well-sealed. When warm air comes in contact with a cooler surface, water condenses and can cause rot, mold, and mildew that destroy a building's integrity and can devastate occupant's health. And in cold climates, when warm indoor air escapes into an attic and melts snow that then re-freezes when it reaches the eaves, it can cause expensive ice dam damage.

Improved indoor air quality. Energy codes require leaks to be sealed and that outdoor air enters safely via whole-house ventilation. Requiring a separation between indoor and outdoor air reduces air pollution like auto exhaust that enters from a garage or radon that seeps in from underneath a foundation.

The IECC Benefits Occupant Welfare with Cash, Comfort, and a Cleaner Environment

The IECC is the ONLY building code that pays for itself. Energy bill savings recoup the slight incremental cost increase of efficiency improvements, then adds money each month to building and home owner wallets. New buildings receive 1,200 energy bills over their 100-year lifespans! Making steady 2021 and future IECC efficiency gains will produce greater economic viability for families and businesses and stronger communities by:

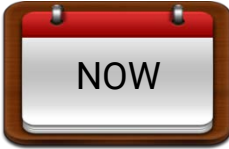

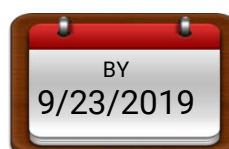

- Making homeownership more affordable and reduce the risk of foreclosure; saving people money.
- Reducing demand for federal tax assistance programs such as the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), which paid \$3.6 billion in 2018 energy bills for low-income households that had fallen behind; and the \$224 million Weatherization Assistance program which - at an average cost of over \$7,000 per household - far exceeded the incremental cost of building right the first time.
- Reducing our nation's demand for energy, and helping cities and states stabilize grids, achieve national climate and energy goals.
- Helping stabilize energy rates by flattening peak demand, reducing strain on the aging grid system that delivers energy to homes and businesses, and delaying both grid repair costs and the need to build expensive new power plants.
- Providing greater indoor comfort by stabilizing temperatures and reducing drafts.

The Power Is in the Hands of ICC Governmental Members.

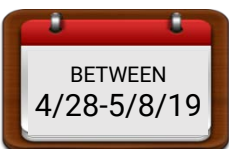
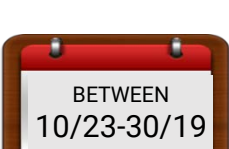
Code Official Guide to Putting the 2021 IECC on a Glide Path of Steady Efficiency Gains

A Checklist and Timeline to Improve America's Model Energy Code

Minimal Pain (and \$); Huge Gain: **Cast Your Votes for the 2021 IECC**

-  MAKE 2021 IECC EFFICIENCY GAINS YOUR JURISDICTION'S PRIORITY
The IECC improves life-safety and puts thousands in energy bill savings in business and home owner/renter wallets.
-  JOIN (or RENEW) AS ICC GOVERNMENTAL MEMBER *and* DESIGNATE YOUR PRIMARY MEMBER
Five minutes and \$140-\$370 (depending on population) is all it takes to [secure ICC Governmental Membership](#)
-  REGISTER YOUR 4, 8, OR 12 VOTERS: "GOVERNMENTAL MEMBER VOTING REPRESENTATIVES" (GMVRs)
Number of GMVRs is based on population:
0-50,000 = 4 GMVRs
50,000-150,000 = 8 GMVRs
150,000+ = 12 GMVRs
-  VOTE! DESIGNATE SOMEONE TO ASSURE GMVRs HAVE IECC'S VOTING GUIDE and CAST THEIR VOTES
Use IECC's time-saving, objective, USCM-endorsed Voting Guide with descriptions of IECC proposals. Voting may take about 2 hours; make it fun with a pizza party & voting together en masse.

Some Pain (more \$); Huge Gain: **Send Witnesses to IECC Hearings**

-  SEND GMVRs TO ICC COMMITTEE ACTION HEARINGS (CAH) IN ALBUQUERQUE TO TESTIFY IN FAVOR OF A MORE EFFICIENT 2021 IECC
At the CAH, Residential and Commercial Energy Committees hear testimony on hundreds of IECC proposals, then recommend their approval or disapproval.
-  SEND GMVRs TO ICC PUBLIC COMMENT HEARINGS (PCH) IN LAS VEGAS TO TESTIFY IN FAVOR OF INCLUDING STRONG 2021 IECC PROPOSALS ON BALLOT
At the PCH, voters hear public comments to amend committee-rejected proposals, then vote to determine which will be included on the online ballot.

Some Pain (mostly time); Huge Gain: **Recruit Allies; Get Involved in Adoption**

- GET INVOLVED IN SUPPORT OF STATE AND LOCAL ADOPTION OF MOST RECENT IECC
The IECC is the only "I-Code" cited in federal law, but as a *model code*, it's up to states and localities to adopt and enforce an updated version.
- BOOST ENFORCEMENT / COMPLIANCE BY PROVIDING CODE OFFICIAL & BUILDER TRAINING