

ICC Government Relations

Monthly Update

August 2024

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Got a new Pulse!
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Meet the newest member to the ICC Board of Directors



All is calm for the Queen Mary and Long Beach awaiting ICC's Annual Conference.



Can't make it to Long Beach to join the best building safety event of the last 30 years?

No worries!

Join the fun October 21 without leaving town.

[Click here and find out!](#)

Queen Mary offers ICC Conference attendees a look at the Golden Age of Ocean Liners

The International Code Council's [Annual Conference, Expo and Committee Action Hearings](#) provide attendees with many opportunities to learn, network and elevate their career in building safety. This includes the annual [building tours](#), which are both fun and educational and allow participants to earn up to 0.7 continuing education units (CEUs) that can be used toward Code Council certification renewal. Along with building tours, the Code Council will also feature the ICC 30th anniversary exhibit where visitors can explore artifacts from the Code Council's history and participate in the creation of a time capsule to commemorate this milestone. This year's [conference](#), which runs from October 20 through October 31 at the [Long Beach Convention Center in California](#), offers something a little different: a tour of the Queen Mary. [Read more here](#) →

Click [here](#) to view the ICC 30th Anniversary Video!

Get ready this summer to apply for FEMA grants

Did you know that, according to the [National Institute for Building Sciences](#), every dollar invested in meeting modern building codes can save up to \$11 in post-disaster repair and recovery costs? That makes adopting and following hazard-resistant building codes one of the most cost-effective ways to keep our communities safe from natural disasters. This year, FEMA is offering more grant funding than ever to support hazard-resistant code adoption and implementation. This funding will be available through the annual Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) [Building Codes Plus-Up](#) program. As with the BRIC National Competition, local governments must apply for Building Codes Plus-Up funding through their states. Grant funds can be used for training and certifying code officials; virtual inspection technology and electronic permitting; and accrediting building departments, among others. While the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the FY 2024 application period is not yet available, summer is a

good time get your ducks in a row. You can start by identifying your jurisdiction's needs and initiating conversations with your State Hazard Mitigation Officer. You can also watch a [FEMA webinar](#) on the FY2023 program or visit the [ICC page](#) on the program.

John Belcik named as Code Council's next Chief Executive Officer

The International Code Council recently announced that its current CFO and COO, [John Belcik](#) will become CEO effective January 1, 2025. Belcik has been with the Code Council for 15 years and has extensive experience in strategic planning, operations, and financial management. Belcik [will succeed Dominic Sims, CBO](#), who has served as the Code Council's CEO since 2012. "We are extremely excited to share this news. John's thorough knowledge of the Code Council, understanding of member expectations, and personal contributions to ICC's organizational evolution make him an ideal leader. The Search Committee reviewed applications from more than 100 candidates and spent a considerable amount of time making this very important decision," said Stuart D. Tom, P.E., CBO, FIAE, President of the Code Council Board of Directors. "I want to thank all the members of the committee for their time and effort as well as the full Board of Directors for selecting our next Chief Executive Officer. Additionally, I thank Dominic for his help and support throughout the search process."

[Read more here](#) →

YEAR IN REVIEW: ICC creates innovative solutions for a changing world

In 2023, the International Code Council developed innovative solutions through collaboration with stakeholders, policymakers and our members that helped the building safety industry adapt to our rapidly changing world. Here is a look at how the Code Council leveraged key partnerships and emerging technology to expand its global reach and provide the tools needed to solve some of the toughest problems in the built environment.

[Read more here](#) →

ICC seeks comment on updated scope and intent for 2027 IECC and applications for IECC code development committees

The International Code Council Board of Directors has developed a draft scope and intent for the 2027 International Energy Conservation Code® (IECC) based on feedback from the 2024 IECC appeals process. Accompanying this draft is a commentary provided by the Board on the revisions made to the scope and intent. The draft scope and commentary can be [found at this link](#). This draft will be open for public comment until Monday, August 19, at 11:59 pm Pacific Time. Public comment will be accepted through [the following form](#). Following review and consideration of the public comments, the Board of Directors will then set the final scope and intent statements for the 2027 IECC.

[Read more here](#) →

2024 IECC and 2024 IRC expected to be available by the end of August

[The 2024 International Energy Conservation Code® \(IECC®\)](#) and [2024 International Residential Code® \(IRC®\) with energy conservation provisions](#) will be available by the end of August in both digital and print formats. This highly anticipated release marks the culmination of three years and thousands of hours of dedicated volunteer efforts by consensus members, subcommittee members, and interested parties. These essential resources are invaluable for architects, builders, engineers, and code officials who want to stay at the forefront of industry standards and best practices. Be sure to pre-order your copies of the [2024 IRC®](#) and [2024 IECC®](#) to stay informed and compliant with the latest advancements in energy conservation and residential construction.

Share your favorite experiences as an ICC member by August 30

As we celebrate our 30th Anniversary, we invite you to share your favorite experiences as an International Code Council member. Reflect on your journey, highlight your contributions and show your pride in being part of the Code Council community. [Record a short video \(20-30 seconds\) and upload it by August 30](#). Selected videos will be showcased at the 2024 Annual Conference.

John “JC” Hudgison appointed to Code Council Board of Directors

The International Code Council recently appointed [John “JC” Hudgison](#), CBO, Construction Services Center Manager and Chief Building Official for the City of Tampa, Florida, to its 2023-2024 Board of Directors. Appointed by Code Council Board President Stuart D. Tom and ratified by the full Board, Hudgison assumed the vacated Section F seat on July 22, 2024. Hudgison brings more than 17 years of experience in architecture, construction management and building code enforcement to the Board. He is both a Certified Building Official and a Building Code Administrator and is actively involved with the Code Council, including leadership positions in multiple important committees and councils. Until recently, he was an active member since 2017 of the Emerging Leaders Membership Council where he had served as Chair of its Governing Committee. Hudgison was the 2023 recipient of the Code Council’s prestigious Emory R. Rodgers Leadership in Building Safety Fellowship, and he also currently serves on the National Institute of Building Sciences’ Board of Directors.

[Read more here](#) →

Pro Codes Act fell two votes short of a required two-thirds House majority

On July 22nd, the U.S. House considered the [Pro Codes Act](#), which would ensure non-profit standards developers, like the Code Council, can continue to self-fund the development and updating of safety codes while helping curtail the recent propagation of unauthorized and erroneous copies of these codes. The bill was considered under “suspension of the rules,” which allows for non-controversial bills to be voted on in an expedited manner. Suspension bills require a 2/3s majority vote. Unfortunately, and despite a strong effort by Code Council staff, dozens of coalition partners and ICC chapters, and many, many ICC members contacting their Members of Congress, *Pro Codes* fell just two votes short of the 2/3s vote required to advance it (248 in favor to 127 against). You can see how your representative voted [here](#). The Code Council is deeply thankful to ICC members and chapters who supported this effort. We are continuing to work on this legislation and will keep in touch on future developments and engagement opportunities.

GSA reaffirms the I-Codes as the standard for GSA-owned buildings

The [U.S. General Services Administration](#) (GSA) recently finalized the [2024 edition of its Facilities Standards for the Public Buildings Service \(P100\)](#), reaffirming the use of the International Code Council’s [International Codes®](#) as the standard for GSA-owned buildings and reiterating their position as the standard for other codes to be considered against. For instance, the P100’s continued selection of the [International Plumbing Code®](#) (IPC), establishes the IPC as the default for all GSA construction. Alternatives require special approval based on a comparison to the IPC.

[Read more here](#) →

ICC selected for EPA grant to advance environmental product declarations

The International Code Council has been selected by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to receive \$3.5 million through the *Reducing Embodied Greenhouse Gas Emissions for Construction Materials and Products* grant. ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) will use this grant funding to generate Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) in partnership with the states of Washington and Oregon. An EPD provides increased transparency regarding the environmental impacts of products using established international standards. Architects, engineers, general contractors, specifiers and other users can then make appropriate, informed product selections.

[Read more here](#) →

Deadline is August 16 to apply for ICC Membership Councils’ positions

[Membership Council Governing Committees](#) will have vacant positions open at the end of this year. Previously, only members present at each Council’s Annual Meeting selected candidates to fill these open positions. For 2024, we are pleased to introduce a new online election process that will **enable and empower all council members to participate** in choosing next year’s governing committees. You will receive more information on how to vote later this summer. The term for Membership Council Governing Committee positions is three years. [The deadline to apply](#)

[online for the Governing Committee positions is August 16.](#) Governing Committees meet regularly by conference call and typically hold 1–2 in-person meetings per year. When authorized by ICC staff, travel expenses for in-person meetings are reimbursed in accordance with Council Policy [CP#4-03](#). If you have questions, email [Ron Piester](#).

[Apply online here](#) →

Call posted for Residential Smart Door Standard Consensus Committee

The Code Council is currently taking applications from code officials, design professionals, installers and other industry stakeholders to volunteer for the Residential Smart Door Standard Consensus Committee (IS-RSDC). The application deadline is August 31.

[Read more here](#) →

Choose your own path to obtaining Code Council certifications

The Code Council recently expanded the PRONTO platform to include in-person testing at [Meazure Learning Test Centers](#), providing a flexible and secure testing environment that accommodates both online and traditional in-person preferences. Meazure Learning is a comprehensive online platform that provides secure and scalable assessment solutions. By integrating advanced technology with a network of proctors, it offers reliable and flexible testing environments. And, as before, individuals can take their Code Council certification exams through the Proctored Remote Online Testing Option (PRONTO), which is available 24/7 and allows scheduling up to 90 minutes in advance, with immediate results upon completion.

[Read more here](#) →

2024 SkillsUSA Championship spotlights future building safety leaders

The recent SkillsUSA competition gathered over 6,000 competitors across 115 different skill categories, representing technical and vocational schools from across the nation. During the event, the Code Council's Region 8 chapter and the Building Officials Association of Georgia worked together to promote the Code Council's Technical Training Program, a flexible educational program based on the International Residential Code®.

[Read more here](#) →

GOT PULSE? Season 6 starts with tips on successful grant applications

The first episode of Season 6 of the ICC Pulse Podcast is now available! Episode 56 discusses the critical role of federal grants in enhancing building safety and community resilience. The episode covers an overview of available federal grants, success stories from Code Council members who have secured funding, emerging trends in the building safety industry and resources provided by the Code Council to assist in the grant application process. Hear from building officials who have used their funding to improve their communities and learn how to navigate the grant application process with the help of our experts.

[Read more here](#) →

ICC Plumbing, Mechanical, and Fuel Gas Updates

Code Council's PMG Team committed to professional development

The [International Code Council's Plumbing, Mechanical and Fuel Gas \(PMG\) Technical Resource Team](#) is deeply committed to nurturing the next generation of professionals in the trades. By partnering with organizations such as the [Associated Builders and Contractors](#), [SkillsUSA](#), [Women in Piping and Plumbing](#) and [Service Titan's National HVAC and Plumbing Competition](#), the Code Council is actively involved at both local and national levels. Additionally, as a sponsor Season 5 of Pfister Faucet's docuseries, [American Plumber Stories](#), which recently featured a journey to Australia, the Code Council is fostering a global appreciation for the trades.

[Read more here](#) →

Updates on Code Council's PMG standards ICC 1700, ICC 815 & ICC 825

The Code Council's PMG team is actively developing three new standards for the built environment. These standards cover hydrogen systems, sizing water distribution, sanitary drainage, vent piping systems and onsite wastewater treatment systems. The continued advancement of plumbing codes and standards is vital to ensuring safe and sustainable plumbing systems around the world. In this article, the [International Code Council's Plumbing, Mechanical and Fuel Gas \(PMG\) team](#) is sharing insights into the development of the ICC/CHS 1700 Professional Qualifications Standards for Hydrogen Systems in the Built Environment, a guide aimed at establishing qualifications for professionals in this emerging field. Additionally, progress continues on the ICC 815 and ICC 825 standards, with committees diligently drafting guidelines for water distribution and onsite wastewater treatment systems, supported by extensive research and global expertise.

[Read more here](#) →

ICC Family of Solutions Updates

Municipality keeps you on track with movement in local housing issues

Establish an effective process for tracking vacant and multi-family properties.

- Track and manage landlord registrations, occupants, and tenants on parcel record
- Set up recurring inspections and tasks from within the registration record
- Generate letters, fees, reports, or registration renewal reminders
- Pair the registration process with foreclosure management to track vacancies on a property

Municipality is the only ePermitting and Code Enforcement software from the International Code Council. To learn more, visit the Municipality [website](#) and join a [Municipality Overview Webinar](#).

ICC-ES Test Lab is now equipped with a new small-scale furnace

ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) has announced the operation of a new small-scale furnace in their Bryan, TX test laboratory. The new equipment was brought in by ICC-ES in an effort to provide manufacturers and designers in the fire protection industry with greater support for the research and development (R&D) space. The small-scale furnace, sized 7-ft x 7-ft x 7-ft, contains 3 pre-mixed, natural gas burners, a removable top and front face to permit testing of vertical and/or horizontal assemblies. This new equipment was designed as the ideal R&D equipment for tests in accordance with ASTM E119/UL 263, ASTM E814/UL1479, and ASTM E1966/UL2079.

[Read more here](#) →

ICC-ES VP becomes new chair of ASME A112 Standards Committee

Maribel Campos, Vice President of ES-PMG Standards for ICC Evaluation Services, was recently elected as the new chair of the ASME A112 Standards Committee on Plumbing Materials and Equipment. She will oversee the committee that develops and maintains plumbing-related standards for fixtures, fittings, valves, and various drain-waste-vent system equipment and components.

[Read more here](#) →

SKGA launches new subscription plan for educational opportunities

S. K. Ghosh Associates' revamped subscription plan grants unrestricted access to all live webinars throughout the year. This means subscribers will have the opportunity to engage in every webinar, allowing them to remain at the forefront of industry advancements.

[Read more here](#) →