

ICC Government Relations' Monthly Update



INTERNATIONAL
CODE COUNCIL®
30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

June 2024

[Click here](#) to visit the ICC GR team website.

Code Council CEO Dominic Sims to receive the Ronald H. Brown Standards Leadership Award

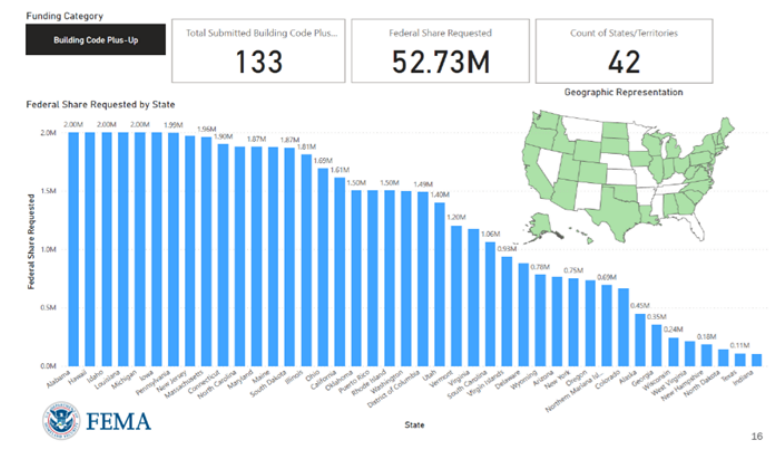
Dominic Sims, Chief Executive Officer of the International Code Council, has been honored with the 2024 Ronald H. Brown Standards Leadership Award by the [U.S. Celebration of World Standards Day Planning Committee](#). This prestigious award, named after the late U.S. Secretary of Commerce, recognizes Sims for his outstanding leadership in promoting the important role of standardization in eliminating global barriers to trade. Members of the U.S. standards and conformity assessment community will honor Sims during U.S. Celebration of World Standards Day on November 14 in Washington, D.C. [Read more here.](#)

The 2024 ICC Annual Conference Education Program at Long Beach announced

The 2024 ICC Annual Conference Education program has been announced, and it will offer [10 tracks](#) on Wednesday, October 22. Each track will consist of [ICC Talks: Inspiration and Innovation](#), worth 0.2 CEUs, plus three 90-minute courses worth 0.15 CEUs each. Course descriptions will be available soon. To take advantage of the early bird discounts, register before September 16, and you will receive a free conference t-shirt. Voter validation is required to vote at the Annual Business Meeting (ABM). All governmental voting representatives who plan to attend the 2024 ABM need to be validated to vote on Code Council business such as elections, bylaw amendments, member resolutions, etc. View the [Voter Validation Process FAQs](#) page for more information. [Read more here.](#)

GET PREPARED EARLY: FEMA will offer its popular Building Codes Plus Up again in the next cycle

Last cycle, FEMA's new Codes Plus Up program—which provided up to \$2 million for every state/territory and \$25 million for tribal governments—saw 133 applications across 42 states and territories for nearly \$53M in federal funding requests.



FEMA is expected to offer the program in the next cycle for FY24. Some states have BRIC preapplication deadlines as soon as August (even before the FY24 BRIC funding announcement). That's why it's never too early to begin learning about BRIC and preparing to apply. [Click here](#) to learn more and begin your project proposal for the application cycle this fall. If you applied for BRIC FY23, stay tuned for award announcements which we hear are coming out in June. With the BRIC FY 23 application cycle winding down, we are eager to get your feedback on how the Code Council was able to help and your experience with the application cycle. Please share your thoughts with us via our [member survey](#) to help us better support our members. Our team is available for grant application development assistance. Click the "[Schedule a Consultation](#)" button below to book a one-on-one virtual meeting with the Code Council's Energy and Resilience Project Manager.

Housing affordability is the focus of joint ICC and HUD 2024 Innovative Housing Showcase June 6-9

The Code Council has again partnered with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to support the 2024 Innovative Housing Showcase June 6-9 in Washington, D.C. The Code Council is hosting an educational session during the event titled *Avenues for Innovation: Insights from State and Local Governments and Manufacturers* on Thursday, June 6, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. ET. The panel sessions will be viewable online and in-person at the District Architecture Center. The Innovative Housing Showcase is a public event that raises awareness of innovative and affordable housing designs and technologies that can increase housing supply, lower the cost of construction, increase energy efficiency and resilience, and reduce housing expenses. The Showcase also features innovative housing solutions on the National Mall from June 8-9. To learn more or register [click here](#) and [also here](#).

Code Council's Training Department is expanding opportunities for 'When Disaster Strikes' training

Executing a resolution passed by the ICC Board of Directors last fall in St. Louis, Chapter leaders were recently notified of a new opportunity available only to them—the ability to license the Code Council's recently updated **When Disaster Strikes** (WDS) training material for their local, in-person use. To execute this nationwide initiative, our Training Department has completed the following steps:

- Welcomed Bill Bracken as the newest member of our Technical Training team in January of this year (leading our WDS initiative as a portion of his role).
- Completed update of the training material and delivered a trial WDS Train-the-Trainer event in Orlando during ICC's Leadership Week.
- Drafted the licensing agreement to be executed by participating chapters (which includes the Board approved fee of \$500).
- Developed instructor qualifications (included in the agreement) for guiding Chapter recruiting of local leaders to implement this opportunity.
- Scheduled an expanded WDS Train-the-Trainer event (October 24-25) to follow immediately after the ICC Annual Conference in Long Beach.

Here are several points about this Chapter initiative:

- It is only available to ICC Chapters, not additional Preferred Providers or other third-party trainers.
- The license is for in person delivery, not online to avoid conflict among the ICC community.
- The program includes copies of the WDS field guide for all participants at cost.
- ATC-20 & ATC-45 may be purchased for participants from ICC or directly from ATC.
- Chapters are allowed to charge participants a reasonable fee to recover their costs and fund chapter initiatives.
- Each participating Chapter may send up to two instructors to the Long Beach train-the-trainer event free of charge.
- ICC Training will continue to offer WDS sessions at market rates, including a self-paced version to be released later this year.

For more information, contact Karla Higgs (kphiggs@iccsafe.org). For questions about the WDS program in general, please contact Bill Bracken (wbracken@iccsafe.org).

FEMA and ICC co-host event aimed at promoting community resiliency through current building codes

Recently, the International Code Council and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) hosted an event that brought together federal and state governmental stakeholders to discuss the progress made in advancement of modern building codes. The panel discussion, *Celebrating a "Mission Possible": A Building Safety Month discussion on progress of the White House National Initiative to Advance Building Codes*, marked the second anniversary of the government-wide effort to boost national resiliency and reduce energy costs through modern building codes. [Read more here](#).

JUNE 12 DEADLINE: ICC's Professional Development Council is seeking to fill four positions

The International Code Council is currently seeking new members for the Professional Development Council (PDC), which plays a vital role in shaping the ICC Credentialing program and/or the ICC Training program. If you have a passion for professional development and a desire to make a difference in the building safety industry, now is the time to apply. The application deadline is **June 12**. The PDC consists of two committees: the Certification Committee (CC) and the Education Committee (EC). Members are

appointed by the ICC Board of Directors for three-year terms. Currently, we have four positions open on the PDC (two for the CC and two for the EC). To learn more about the open positions and the duties and responsibilities of the PDC, [click here](#).

Code Council makes its 2021 International Codes available in Spanish in both print and digital formats

The International Code Council's [2021 International Codes](#)® (I-Codes) are now available in Spanish, in both print and digital formats. This release marks a significant step forward in promoting safety, accessibility, and innovation within the global construction industry. The 2021 Spanish editions of the I-Codes help facilitate the understanding of building safety provisions for Spanish-speaking communities around the world. Improving the understanding and accessibility of building codes elevates the quality of construction and ensures safety. [Read more here](#).

NOAA data predicts the 2024 hurricane season will be above normal with up to seven major events

The 2024 Atlantic hurricane season, which runs from June 1 through November 30, may be unfavorable according to forecasters at the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#) (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center. With 70 percent confidence, [NOAA is predicting](#) an 85 percent chance of an above-normal season, a 10 percent chance of a near-normal season and a five percent chance of a below-normal season. Forecasters are predicting a range of 17 to 25 named storms, of which 8 to 13 could become hurricanes, including four to seven major hurricanes, designated as category three or higher on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. This hurricane season also features the potential for an above-normal West African monsoon, which can produce African easterly waves that create some of the strongest and longer-lived Atlantic storms. [Read more here](#).

Virgin Islands updates its International Codes from 2018 to 2024 and sets policy on new updates

Governor Albert Bryan Jr. of the U.S. Virgin Islands recently approved legislation that requires the adopted 2018 International Building Code® (IBC), International Residential Code® (IRC), International Energy Conservation Code® (IECC), International Fire Code® (IFC) and International Mechanical Code® (IMC) be updated to the 2024 editions. This also requires the territory to update all codes within six months of any new I-Code edition being published. [Read more here](#).

Code Council recognized as a recipient of the 2024 President's 'E' Award for its expansion of exports

The International Code Council was recognized as a recipient of the 2024 President's "E" Award ("E-for-Export") during a ceremony held at the U.S. Department of Commerce in Washington, D.C. This award is the highest recognition a person or U.S. entity can receive for making a significant contribution to the expansion of U.S. exports. Dominic Sims, CBO, Code Council CEO and Stuart Tom, President of the Code Council Board of Directors, attended the 63rd annual "E" Awards ceremony where they accepted the award on behalf of the organization. The primary criteria for the award is four years of successive export growth, usually accompanied by a rising percentage of export sales within total sales. [Read more here](#).

U.S. House subcommittee hearing focuses on lowering disaster costs through updating building codes

The U.S. House's Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure recently held a subcommittee hearing titled, *Disaster Mitigation: Reviewing the Effectiveness and Costs of FEMA's Resilience Programs*. Subcommittee members focused their attention on the costs and benefits of an increasing emphasis on mitigation through Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant programs, such as the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), the [Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities \(BRIC\) Program](#) and the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grant Program. [Read more here](#).

Application period closes on June 14 for the 2024 Building Safety Leadership Experience

This enriching program offers members an exclusive opportunity to attend a series of Conference events where they will gain insights into Code Council governance and explore how membership fosters industry engagement, unlocks new opportunities and drives professional advancement. Participants will receive complimentary delegate registration and reimbursement for ground and air transportation plus lodging from October 19–24. The BSLE application period closes June 14. [Click Here](#) to apply.

FEMA's Guide provides managers with tools to enhance their climate resilience through strategies

The [Federal Emergency Management Agency](#) (FEMA) recently published the [Climate Adaption Planning: Guidance for Emergency Managers](#) to help state, local, tribal and territorial (SLTT) emergency managers integrate climate adaptation strategies into their community emergency management planning efforts. The guide seeks to address the evolving hazard landscape due to the increasing impacts of climate change and provide emergency managers with solutions to plan differently when assessing disaster risk and community resilience. Building codes are highlighted throughout the guide as an integral pillar of climate adaptation planning and pre-hazard mitigation. [Read more here.](#)



ICC Plumbing, Mechanical and Fuel Gas updates

PM Engineer would like to spotlight some 'Next Generation All-Stars' in its 'Top 20 Under 40 Contest'

Do you know a good candidate to spotlight in *PM Engineer's* contest focusing on up-and-coming plumbing industry under 40 years old? *PM Engineer* would like to highlight these "Next Generation All-Stars" in its "[Top 20 Under 40 Contest](#)." Any professional working in any aspect of the plumbing industry, including plumbing code officials, plumbers and pipefitters, contracting business owners, professional engineers and plumbing designers, wholesalers, manufacturers and manufacturers reps can be nominated. [Fill out this questionnaire to nominate a deserving individual](#). All winners will be profiled in upcoming editions of *Plumbing & Mechanical*, *PM Engineer* and *Supply House Times*. The deadline to submit nominations is **June 28, 2024**. Questions? Please contact *PM Engineer* Chief Editor Nicole Krawcke at krawcken@bnpmedia.com.

Aldrich is first female member, president of Rhode Island Master Plumber & Mechanical Association

When Brooklyn-born Melanie Aldrich first moved to Rhode Island, "it was rough because the codes were mostly made up and that was stressful," she recalled. But through her dedication and hard work, she became the Ocean State's first female plumbing inspector, and the first woman appointed to the state's [Board of Examiners of Plumbers](#). She was the only woman at her first meeting of the [Rhode Island Master Plumber and Mechanical Association](#), and 10 years later she still is, although she's also now the president. [Read more here.](#)

Code Council's PMG team met with industry stakeholders to examine water reuse provisions in codes

The [National Blue Ribbon Commission for Onsite Non-potable Water Systems \(NBRC\)](#) recently partnered with [WaterReuse](#) and the U.S. EPA, to host an Onsite Water Reuse Summit in Washington D.C. The Summit aimed to bring together experts and stakeholders to discuss and advance the adoption of onsite water reuse technologies and practices. Held in response to the [growing need for sustainable water management solutions](#), the Summit provided a platform for sharing knowledge, best practices and innovations in water reuse for various applications. The Water Reuse Working Group compiled extensive data and conducted a comprehensive review of the water reuse requirements in the [2021 International Plumbing Code®](#) (IPC) and [2021 International Residential Code®](#) (IRC) to determine what updates were needed to better address on-site direct potable water reuse in the 2027 versions of the IPC and IRC. [Read more here.](#)



ICC Evaluation Services updates

AVM Industries continues to choose the ICC Evaluation Service for proof of code compliance

The ICC Evaluation Service ([ICC-ES](#)) recently announced the successful transfers of multiple AVM Industries' Los Angeles Research Reports (LARRs) to ICC-ES. This transfer of LARRs to ICC-ES Evaluation Reports (ESRs) ensures AVM's uninterrupted compliance to the City of Los Angeles Building Code (LABC) and the City of Los Angeles Residential Code (LARC). ICC-ES is a trusted, reliable and accredited certification body accepted by the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LADBS). [AVM Industries](#) is a leader in innovative approaches to waterproofing, methane and VOC barriers for below-grade and above-grade applications. Basements, plaza decks, balconies, planters, and green roofs have been waterproofed using AVM Systems. AVM's transfer of reports to ICC-ES reaffirms its commitment to excellence and continues to uphold its reputation for the quality, reliability, and code compliance of its products. [Read more here.](#)

ICC-ES offers streamline process from testing to product certification of materials, products and more
ICC Evaluation Service ([ICC-ES](#)) offers a streamlined process from testing to product certification for a variety of building materials, products, and assemblies. With a state-of-the-art facility, customized equipment, and expert staff that provides unparalleled customer service, ICC-ES provides a wide range of flammability and fire resistance testing capabilities to meet the requirements of relevant standards and codes. As one of the top fire testing labs in the U.S., ICC-ES leads the industry in Total Conformity Assessment Solutions. Our comprehensive product evaluation, testing, and inspection services provide building product manufacturers with high-quality technical reports that are sought after by code officials when approving or specifying products for installation. [Read more here.](#)



ICC Community Development Solutions update

These two free webinars for building officials shows you how to digitally transform your office

Are you ready to digitize your Building Department, find your necessary documents with a simple search, and/or use sorting templates to get organized? We will introduce the basic tools offered by Laserfiche. [Register Now](#) for Wed, July 17 at 1:30 p.m. ET. We also offer an **Overview of Municipity—DigEplan Software and Integration**. By integrating Avolve’s DigEplan™ with ICC CDS’s Municipity® permitting system, agencies of all sizes can benefit from a seamless and robust solution. Learn how this integration eliminates redundant workflows and manual processes, significantly enhancing productivity and reducing complexity in permit issuance. [Register Now](#) for this webinar on Wednesday, July 11 at 1:30 p.m. ET, co-hosted by ICC CDS and Avolve.



Agenda

Conference Oct. 20–23 ▪ Expo Oct. 20–21 ▪ Hearings Oct. 23–31

All events will take place at the Long Beach Convention Center unless otherwise noted

Long Beach Convention Center
300 East Ocean Blvd, Long Beach, CA 90802