

DISCIPLINES OF BUILDING SAFETY

The Building Safety Profession covers every aspect of the life of a building, from planning and construction to use, operation and maintenance. Building Safety Professionals assist design professionals, contractors, building owners and the public to understand how to design, construct, operate and occupy buildings in conformance with the International Codes and technical standards adopted by local and state jurisdictions.



BUILDING Addresses general materials and methods of construction, including heights and areas, occupancy classification, construction type, occupancy and use requirements, structural stability, interior and exterior finishes, means of egress, accessibility and safeguards during construction. (Click to learn about the [IBC](#), [IRC](#), [IZC](#))



FIRE Addresses the hazards of smoke and fire arising from building operations, occupancy, storage and use, fire detection, suppression and alarm systems and conditions affecting safety of fire fighters and emergency responders during emergency operations. (Click to learn about the [IFC](#), [IWUIC](#))



PLUMBING/MECHANICAL/FUEL GAS/POOLS/SPAS Addresses the design construction, installation, operation and maintenance of plumbing, mechanical and fuel gas systems in buildings, also includes swimming pools and spas. (Click to learn about the [IPC](#), [IPSDC](#), [IMC](#), [IFGC](#), [ISPC](#))



ELECTRICAL Addresses the design, construction and installation of electrical components, appliances, equipment and systems in buildings. (Click to learn about the [NEC](#))



ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY Addresses the design, construction and installation of energy conservation features in buildings, use of natural resources in building construction, and indoor environmental quality and comfort. (Click to learn about the [IECC](#), [IgCC](#))

THE LIFE OF A BUILDING

A building begins as an idea. From the moment a building is imagined, components of building safety shape its development, design, construction, operation and use, contributing to the quality of life and economic vitality of a community.

RENOVATIONS If the owner wishes to alter an existing building's construction or change its use, the process is subject to the application and issuance of a building permit, construction inspection(s) and issuance of Certificate of Occupancy or Compliance by the Code Official. (Click to learn about the [IEBC](#))

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE The Fire Marshal periodically performs fire safety and property maintenance inspections to ensure the building is occupied, operated and maintained in conformance with applicable requirements of the code. (Click to learn about the [IFC](#), [IPMC](#))

CONSTRUCTION The contractor constructs the building in accordance with approved plans and specifications. The Building Inspector conducts periodic inspections to ensure the work conforms with approved plans and specifications. Upon completion, a Certificate of Occupancy (or Certificate of Compliance) is issued by the Code Official.

PERMITTING The design professional submits building plans, specifications and a building permit application to the Permit Technician. The Plans Examiner reviews the plans and specifications for conformance with local regulations and adopted codes and standards. Once the project is determined to comply, a building permit is issued by the Code Official.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT The owner engages a design professional to plan and design a building. The Code Official assists the owner and design professional to understand proper application of zoning, codes and standards to the project. The Permit Technician provides assistance during the application and approval process.

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INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL