



Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC) FAQ

What are building codes, and why are they important?

Building codes provide standards for building construction and maintenance that promote safety, public health, efficiency, and more. In particular, energy codes establish standards for energy efficiency, weatherization, structural integrity, fire safety, and more. The Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC) is the statewide building and energy code.

What is changing with Maine's building and energy codes?

As of **April 7, 2025**, MUBEC is updating from the 2015 codes to the 2021 version of the I-codes (IBC, IEBC, IRC, IECC & IMC) and the 2019 version of adopted ASHRAE Standards (62.1, 62.2 & 90.1).

Why is this update happening?

Maine is required to be no more than two editions behind the current codes by law, so Maine is following its statutory requirement to be up to date. In 2024, the MUBEC board voted to adopt the updated codes.

Where does this apply?

- To all new construction and renovations of residential and commercial buildings in Maine.
- Enforcement through inspections and review of the MUBEC is required in towns with more than 4,000 people.

What are the benefits?

- **Lower energy costs** through greater efficiency.
 - **Payback period:** For most of Maine, it will take 4.5 years for the savings from energy efficiency to equal the initial investment ([Source](#)).
 - **Life-cycle cost savings:** Over the life of an average unit, \$23,772 will be saved ([Source](#)).
 - **Annual utility bill savings:** \$978 per household in the first year ([Source](#)).
- **Improved safety, indoor air quality, and resilience** to extreme weather events.
- **Uniformity and consistency** across the state for homeowners, builders, and developers.

What are the biggest changes?

- The introduction of more heavy timber construction applications for commercial projects.
- New energy code provides more options to meet efficiency compliance through various weatherization and energy measures.
- New residential 1 and 2 family dwellings require the installation of radon mitigation systems.

What support is available to learn about the new codes?

- Webinars and in-person trainings are available throughout the state for builders, code enforcement officers, and design professionals.
- For more information, visit the [MUBEC Website](#).
- International Code Council (ICC) code books and digital subscriptions are available to code enforcement officers in towns that enforce MUBEC.