Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future

Resilient Building Codes Research Intern – Spring 2026

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Resilient Building Codes Research Intern will support ongoing work to strengthen Maine's building codes, improve climate resilience in the built environment, and inform recommendations for state and local policy. This internship directly supports implementation of statewide plans such as Maine's *Plan for Infrastructure Resilience*, *Maine Won't Wait*, and the *Roadmap for the Future of Housing Production in Maine*.

The intern will conduct research, synthesize national best practices, and assist in developing policy options for more resilient building codes and design standards in Maine. This role is ideal for a student interested in climate adaptation, environmental policy, planning, engineering, architecture, housing policy, or emergency management.

The intern will begin by conducting a review of Maine's current building codes for elements that support resilience to climate impacts such as flooding, extreme heat, and power outages. This work will build on initial research conducted for the Infrastructure Rebuilding and Resilience Commission and the Maine Climate Council Buildings, Infrastructure, and Housing (BIH) Working Group. In collaboration with the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future (GOPIF) and Maine Office of Community Affairs (MOCA) staff, the intern will support consultation with stakeholder groups such as the BIH working group and the Technical Codes and Standards Board to further refine the list of code elements that contribute to resilience. Further, the intern will research national and global best practices to identify potential gaps where Maine's building codes could support greater resilience to climate impacts.

The Resilient Building Codes Research Intern will support the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future (GOPIF) while collaborating with other agencies including the Maine Office of Community Affairs (MOCA) and Department of Energy Resources (DOER). This is a part-time, paid position (~20 hours/week, up to 400 hours), and will run over a 20-week period between January-May 2026. The position will be hybrid, headquartered in Augusta, ME.

To apply, please send a letter of interest and a resume to Cheryl Miller (cheryl.miller@maine.gov) no later than **December 12th, 2025**.

JOB TASKS

- Conduct research on specific elements of building codes, including prescriptive and performance-based standards, flood-resistant design, backup power systems, and wildfire and extreme heat preparedness, that can improve climate resilience in buildings.
- Review how other states and municipalities implement resilience ordinances, stretch codes, and voluntary standards (e.g., FORTIFIED, National Green Building Standard).
- Synthesize findings on elements of Maine's current building codes that contribute to resilience.
- Assist in identifying gaps in Maine's current building codes that could be updated to make buildings more resilient to climate impacts.

- Prepare memos, policy briefs, white papers, and/or presentations summarizing research findings.
- Participate in workshops, hearings, and stakeholder meetings as related to research topics.
- Other tasks as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Top candidates may come from a variety of backgrounds and will demonstrate many of the below qualifications:

- Strong written and verbal communication skills; a writing sample may be requested.
- Expertise or experience in climate adaptation, environmental policy, planning, engineering, architecture, housing policy, or emergency management.
- Strong interpersonal skills.
- Ability to analyze complex legal and policy issues and present findings clearly and concisely.
- Familiarity with International Code Council (ICC) codes, particularly the International Residential Code (IRC), International Commercial Code (ICC) and International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) (preferred but not required).
- Pursuing a graduate level degree.