

## International Code Council Government Relations Update February 2013

### Advance Registration Open for Committee Action Hearings

We invite you to register now for the 2013 **Committee Action Hearing**, formerly known as the ICC Code Development Hearing. The Committee Action Hearing is a critical step in the development of the 2015 International Codes.

This year's hearing, April 21 – 30 at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel, offers code and fire officials, designers and other building safety professionals the opportunity to voice their opinions and help shape the 2015 I-Codes. This event is an excellent way to learn more about the codes, get involved in the code development process, and **be heard!** Participants will consider proposed code changes to the Group B codes. Group B "Admin" includes code change proposals submitted to Chapter 1 of all the I-Codes except the IECC, IgCC, IRC, ISPSC, and the ICCPC and the administrative update of referenced standards in all the 2012 I-Codes. Proposed changes to Chapter 1 of the IECC, IgCC, IRC, ISPSC and ICCPC will be considered by the applicable Code Development Committee.

Should YOU attend the hearings? If you are:

- Code Officials and Inspectors
- Contractors and Builders
- Structural Engineers and Architect
- Fire Safety Professionals
- Plumbing, Mechanical, and Fuel Gas Professionals
- Manufacturers of pool and spa safety products
- ICC Members and stakeholders

Then what are you waiting for? Click on this link to fill out your registration form now!

<https://s3.goeshow.com/icc/ICCAH/ereg591499.cfm?pg=register>

### Building Safety Month is Right Around the Corner!

Sponsored by the International Code Council (ICC), Building Safety Month is celebrated by jurisdictions worldwide during the month of May. This year's theme is *Building Safety Month: Code Officials Keep You Safe*. Each week of Building Safety Month spotlights a specific area of building safety:

- Week One – May 6-12, 2013: Fire Safety and Awareness
- Week Two – May 13-19, 2013: Disaster Safety and Mitigation
- Week Three – May 20-26, 2013: Backyard and Pool Safety
- Week Four – May 27-31, 2013: Energy and Green Building

Find out more about Building Safety Month here: <http://www.iccsafe.org/BSM/Pages/default.aspx>

### Building Safety Month Proclamations

But that's not all! Building Safety Month earned the highest recognition during 2012 from President Barack Obama (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2012/05/01/presidential-proclamation->

[national-building-safety-month-2012](#)) and his declaration of May as National Building Safety Month. You can help expand recognition for 2013 Building Safety Month with an official proclamation from your local, state and national leaders. Download the 2013 Building Safety Month Model Proclamation in Word: [http://www.iccsafe.org/BSM/Documents/2013/BSM\\_Proclamation.doc](http://www.iccsafe.org/BSM/Documents/2013/BSM_Proclamation.doc) and PDF: [http://www.iccsafe.org/BSM/Documents/2013/BSM\\_Proclamation.pdf](http://www.iccsafe.org/BSM/Documents/2013/BSM_Proclamation.pdf).

### **Building Code Tool Kit from FEMA**

The FEMA Federal Insurance & Mitigation Administration (FIMA), Risk Reduction Division, Building Science Branch is pleased to announce the newly developed **Building Codes Toolkit** - a central online page that will help the regulated community understand building codes, its value to occupant safety and community resilience, and the available tools and resources for a variety of audiences.

Through close coordination and partnership with local, regional, and national [contributors and subject matter experts](#) and by utilizing existing multi-hazard standards and best practices, we were able to produce and organize a series of informational materials and tools for **property owners** and the **general public**:

- [Full Toolkit](#) (pdf)
- [Introduction to Building Codes Presentation](#) (ppt)
- [Building Codes Fact Sheet](#) (pdf)
- [Basic Project Planning Template](#) (pdf)
- [Checklist of Questions to Ask Your General Contractor](#) (pdf)
- [Basic Checklist to Acquire a Building Permit](#) (pdf)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (pdf)
- [Instructional and Testimonial Videos](#) (pdf)
- [Glossary](#) (pdf)
- [Other Useful Resources](#) (pdf)

For many years, FEMA and ICC have also maintained and produced a huge portfolio of materials related to disaster resistant building codes, construction guidance and standards, technical training, and other informational resources for **engineers, architects, code officials, and design professionals**:

- [Building Codes Resources for Earthquakes](#)
- [Building Codes Resources for Flood and Other Hazards](#)
- [International Code Council](#)
  - [I-Codes](#)
  - [Training](#)
  - [Events](#)

Building codes and proper construction practices is one of the best strategies individuals, organizations, and communities can adopt to ensure occupant safety, protection of local tax base, continuity of essential services, and support more rapid recovery from disasters. Please utilize these materials and share with others. If you have any suggestions or comments, please fill out this [customer survey](#).

For more information on available FEMA building codes and construction standards and guidance, please visit: <http://www.fema.gov/building-science-publications>

### **ICC E-News – Current and Back Issues and Subscription Info**

<http://www.iccsafe.org/newsroom/Pages/eNews.aspx>

### **ICC, NASFM Offer Crowd Manager Training**

In the wake of the tragic nightclub fire in Brazil, ICC reminds all its members that the training is available for the joint ICC/NASFM Crowd Manager Public Safety Program. Developed by experts, including state Fire Marshals, this program complies with International Fire Code requirements. Visit the ICC website for details and link to on-line training program:

<http://www.iccsafe.org/Education/Pages/crowdmanager.aspx?r=crowdmanager>

### **Interim Guidance for ICC Members on Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding**

ICC has been working with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development so code officials and HUD administrators recognize that CDBG funding may be used for building code administration. A joint webinar will be announced soon. Find out more about how you or your jurisdiction can receive federal funding to administer building codes here: <http://www.iccsafe.org/gr/Pages/CDBG.aspx>

### **ICC Codes and Standards Council Application Deadline Is Upon Us!**

The Code Council is currently accepting applications to fill two vacancies on the Codes and Standards Council, a single, multidiscipline council established to advise the Board of Directors on codes and standards committees' procedures, practices and other codes and standards related processes.

Application deadline is Feb. 11, and the application can be found here:

<http://www.iccsafe.org/cc/Pages/c-app.aspx>. More information about the Codes and Standards Council can be found here: <http://www.iccsafe.org/cc/Pages/calls.aspx>

### **ICC Board Approves cdp ACCESS Steering Committee's Final Recommendations for Online Code Development**

During its winter meeting, the International Code Council Board of Directors approved the cdp ACCESS Steering Committee's final recommendations. The Board authorized staff to proceed with the initiative to increase participation in ICC's core function: Code Development. A flow chart, located here:

[http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/cdpACCESS/Documents/cdp\\_ACCESS\\_FlowChart.pdf](http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/cdpACCESS/Documents/cdp_ACCESS_FlowChart.pdf) has been created to illustrate the new process. Testing of the online Governmental Consensus Vote will occur in October in Atlantic City at the 2013 Public Comment Hearings. After system and process adjustments the 2014 Cycle for the IgCC will be a binding Beta test for the entire cdp ACCESS process.

**Take advantage of ES reports – ES reports are available at:**

<http://www.icc-es.org/>

For decades, ICC-ES has been the industry leader in performing technical evaluations for code compliance, providing regulators and construction professionals with clear evidence that products comply with codes and standards.

Having completed hundreds of evaluations of building products, components, methods, and materials, ICC-ES has a proven track record of excellence in product evaluations. This record extends to reports regarding sustainability under standards such as CALGreen (the California Green Building Standards Code), IgCC (International Green Construction Code), and other green rating systems.

**ICC's High School Training Program**

<http://www.iccsafe.org/gr/Pages/HSTTP.aspx>

The International Code Council has implemented a new program for High School Students participating in Technical Training to receive an introduction to the model building codes, including code interpretation, application and administration — essential elements of many construction related career paths. ICC has embarked on this program to partner with Technical High Schools by providing a course of study focused on the *International Residential Code* (IRC). This course may be integrated into existing curricula or introduced as a new class. ICC Chapters are encouraged to work with local High School Technical Training Programs to offer guidance and assistance.