

# A BETTER BUILDING CODE

WHY YOU? IF ENOUGH ELIGIBLE OFFICIALS IN MASSACHUSETTS VOTE THE RIGHT WAY ON THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE, WE CAN CHANGE THE WAY BUILDINGS ARE BUILT AROUND THE WORLD.

## WHAT IS THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE?

The International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) is the model code for new buildings built in the United States and beyond. The code maximizes building efficiency and safety, and minimizes carbon pollution and energy bills. In 2019, municipal officials across the country will have the power to vote to determine a **better, more efficient** code in 2019.



U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Ryan J. Courtade

### THIS ISN'T JUST A CLIMATE ISSUE — IT'S A SAFETY ISSUE

A study after Superstorm Sandy showed that IECC-regulation buildings allowed residents to stay in their homes for more days during extreme weather conditions—literally saving lives.<sup>4</sup>

## BENEFITS OF A BETTER CODE:

**Conservation:** Since 1998, the IECC has reduced carbon pollution by 36 million tons.<sup>1</sup>

More efficient buildings are not only more climate friendly, but also ensure greater grid stability because they perform best during peak times, delaying the need for new power plants.

**Cost-Effective:** The IECC has already saved American homeowners more than \$44 billion.<sup>2</sup>

Energy-efficient features like better insulation and strong building envelopes add to a home's selling value and permanently lower utility bills. This is especially important for low-income families who pay a larger slice of their income in energy bills.

**Safety:** The IECC keeps buildings resilient and safe.<sup>3</sup>

The current IECC incorporates the newest technologies in building science to ensure building and resident safety, preventing condensation, pollution, and rot.

## WHO GETS TO VOTE ON THE IECC?

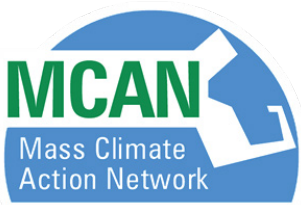
- Members of city councils or boards of selectmen
- Members of planning departments
- City and town managers
- Sustainability directors
- Energy managers

1 <https://www.iccsafe.org/about-icc/periodicals-and-newsroom/2018-marks-the-20th-anniversary-of-the-international-energy-conservation-code/>

2 <http://energyefficientcodes.com/codes/>

3 <https://www.iccsafe.org/about-icc/periodicals-and-newsroom/2018-marks-the-20th-anniversary-of-the-international-energy-conservation-code/>

4 <http://www.mojo.swenergy.org/energy-codes-are-life-safety-codes>



**SIERRA CLUB**  
MASSACHUSETTS

## WHAT IS THE PROCESS?

To vote on the 2021 IECC, the lead from your city or town must register as the **Primary Representative of your Governmental Member by March 29th, 2019**. When Governmental Members join or renew their Membership with the International Code Council, they are eligible to register 4, 8, or 12 **Voting Representatives**, depending on their town's population.

Population Size	Max Number of Votes	Registration Costs
0-50,000	4	\$135
50,001-150,000	8	\$240
Over 150,000	12	\$370

**Governmental Member:** "Any governmental unit, department or agency engaged in the administration, formulation or enforcement of laws, ordinances, rules or regulations relating to the public health, safety and welfare" is eligible to register as a Governmental Member.

*A jurisdiction can have multiple **Governmental Members**, each of which is eligible to register a full roster of Voting Representatives.*

## VOTING TIMELINE



**JAN 1ST**

2019 registration opens



**MARCH 29TH**

Deadline for Primary Representative registration



**SEPT 23RD**

Deadline for Governmental Members to confirm their roster



**NOV 13TH**

Voting opens to determine 2021 IECC



**NOV 27th**

Final day to vote

**MASSACHUSETTS HAS THOUSANDS OF ELIGIBLE OFFICIALS,  
BUT DURING THE LAST CODE CYCLE, LESS THAN A QUARTER REGISTERED TO VOTE.**

**YOU CAN BE A PART OF MAKING BUILDING ENERGY CODES  
BETTER, SAFER, AND MORE COST-EFFECTIVE FOR EVERYONE.**

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