

SUMMARY OF MAJOR CHANGES
Between the 2021 & 2024 International Codes
(Including 2020 National Electrical Code & 2023 National Electrical Code)
with Local Amendments

International Building Code (IBC)

- Now includes provisions for tornado loadings.
- Updated wind, earthquake, rain, and snow loads.
- New provisions for structural concrete reinforced with glass-fiber reinforcement.

International Residential Code (IRC)

- Alterations to existing stairways are no longer required to comply with the requirements for new stairs when the existing space and construction does not allow a reduction in stairway pitch or slope.
- Now includes provisions for the use of HVAC systems with new A2L refrigerants, which are becoming available for residential installations.

International Fire Code (IFC)

- Additional provisions for Energy Storage Systems to regulate evolving technologies.
- Research, storage, and manufacturing of lithium-ion batteries now has automatic sprinkler system and detection requirements.
- New provisions for charging powered micromobility devices.
- Carbon monoxide (CO) detectors are now required for all occupancy groups.

International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)

- Dallas County has been reclassified from climate zone 3A (warm humid) to 2A (hot humid). Collin and Denton County remain 3A. This change coordinates the 2021 IECC with ASHRAE Standard 169-2013 and, therefore, ASHRAE 90.1-2016 & 2019.
- Residential IECC lighting control provisions now require dimmers or occupancy sensors for interior lighting, except for a few exempt locations (bathrooms, hallways). Exterior lighting greater than 30 watts now requires automatic shutoff under daylight conditions.

International Existing Building Code (IEBC)

- Occupiable roof requirements have been incorporated to correlate with the IBC.
- The requirements for storm shelters have been coordinated with revisions in the IBC and ICC 500, clarifying that where constructed, storm shelters shall comply with IBC Section 423.
- Clarifies how risk categories should be assigned for structural design where the addition and the existing building have different uses.
- Existing Group I-1, condition 2 occupancies and ambulatory care facilities may be required to divide stories into no fewer than two smoke compartments for more substantial additions and alterations.

International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC)

- No significant changes noted.

International Plumbing Code (IPC)

- Provisions added for support of buried piping beneath building where expansive soil conditions exist.
- Requirement added for tracer wire for buried plastic sewer piping.
- Option added for vacuum testing of DWV piping.

International Fuel Gas Code (IFGC)

- New provisions for fired appliances where corrosive or flammable products can enter combustion air.
- Updated provisions regarding workmanship and defects.

International Mechanical Code (IMC)

- An identification requirement was added for Group A2L and B2L refrigerants.
- The requirements for machinery rooms containing Group A2L refrigerants were changed and Group B2L refrigerants were added to the provisions.
- Addition of a new minimum landing at the roof hatch for personnel to safely use the hatch when accessing the roof for repair and maintenance.
- Addition of a new testing option for grease ductwork.
- Requirements for steam baths were added.
- A new standard requirement for refrigeration systems containing carbon dioxide was added.

National Electrical Code (NEC)

- GFCI protection now required for all kitchen receptacles (not just countertop receptacles).
- In order to provide first responders with a safe method of disconnecting power from a structure, one-family and two-family dwellings are required to have an emergency disconnect installed outdoors, within sight, and in a readily accessible location.