



Department of Consumer and Business Services

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Oregon's Statewide Building Code – Uniform, Consistent & Predictable

The Building Codes Division, part of the Department of Consumer and Business Services, enforces the building code to protect the public and prevent unsafe construction work. Oregon has one statewide building code providing a uniform, consistent and predictable process for Oregon's construction industry, the public, and state and local government.

Oregon's building code is applicable in all cities and counties and is enforced locally across the state. The Division provides code enforcement in areas of the state where the local jurisdiction does not.

What are the benefits of a statewide code?

Specialty codes establish minimum and maximum requirements for construction in Oregon. This "mini/maxi" standard is unique because it provides a framework which builders cannot go below and cities and counties cannot go above.

- **Safety** - statewide codes provide comfort for Oregon families, who can rely upon minimum construction standards for the safety and soundness of their homes;
- **Transparency** - a statewide code allows for processes that include participation by all interested parties;
- **Flexibility** - statewide codes adjust with new innovations in technology and expectations about responses to natural disasters;
- **Fairness** - statewide codes promote predictability for designers, builders and suppliers;
- **Efficiency** - consistent construction standards provide a regional economic benefit for construction companies, insurers and lenders.

How are codes adopted?

The Division works with seven Governor-appointed volunteer advisory boards and a wide spectrum of stakeholders, partners and interested parties to adopt the code. The Division's code adoption process provides consistency, uniformity and predictability for Oregon's construction industry, the public, and state and local government. Specialty codes are adopted on 3-year cycles- based upon national models tailored to meet the needs of Oregonians.

For more information:

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