

2025 California Building and Fire Code Adoption

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Local Government Adoption of Title 24 by Ordinance

- Title 24, California Code of Regulations is applicable to all occupancies throughout California, whether or not the local government takes any action to adopt Title 24. (Health and Safety Code, Sections 17950 and 18938(d).)
- Where is the local jurisdiction's authority to adopt and amend a local code legally established?
 - HSC 18941.5 (Building Standards Law)
 - HSC 17958 (State Housing Law)
- In adopting Title 24 for local enforcement, the jurisdiction may amend the standards if such amendments are necessary to address a local geologic, topographic or climatic condition.



What is Title 24, California Code of Regulations?

Organized into 12 separate parts:

CA Administrative Code

CA Building Code and Residential Code

CA Electrical Code

CA Mechanical Code

CA Plumbing Code

CA Energy Code

CA Wildland-Urban Interface Code

CA Historical Building Code

CA Fire Code

CA Existing Building Code

CA Green Building Standards Code

CA Reference Standards Code



Significant Changes from 2022 Edition to 2025 Edition

- Introduce Part 7: the California Wildland-Urban Interface Code. This new part integrates California Residential Code Section R337, California Building Code Chapter 7A, and California Fire Code Chapter 49 to strengthen wildfire resilience in areas where development meets wildland.
- It establishes requirements for defensible space, ignition-resistant construction, water supply, and emergency access, ensuring consistent statewide protection.



Amended Codes

- Administrative and Technical Amendments
 - California Building Code
 - Adopt Appendix I (Patio Covers), Appendix J (Grading), Appendix Q (Emergency Housing)
 - California Residential Code
 - Adopt Appendix BF (Patio Covers), Appendix CI (Swimming Pool Safety Act), Appendix CJ (Emergency Housing)
 - California Fire Code
 - No new amendments, but changes were made as a result of the addition of Part 7: WUI Code
- Administrative Only
 - California Electrical Code
 - California Plumbing Code
 - California Mechanical Code
 - CA Wildland-Urban Interface Code
 - California Existing Building Code
 - Green Building Standards Code

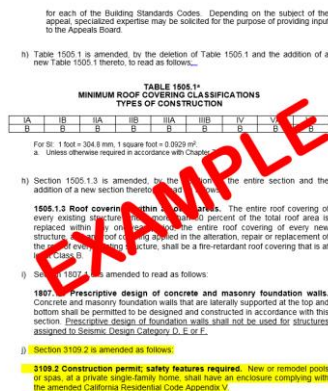


Amendments

- Administrative Amendments
 - References to Fee Schedule adopted by Community and Economic Development and Fire Department
 - Uniform appeals process
- Technical Amendments
 - Sprinkler systems required for major and substantial remodels to single-family dwellings
 - Safety feature requirements for swimming pools for single-family residences
 - Specific requirements for when a grading permit is required



- International Code Council – Orange Empire Chapter
 - Code Adoption Subcommittee
 - Consisted of Building Officials from all over Orange County to create a uniform code adoption process
 - Subcommittee met monthly to discuss necessary local code amendments due to Orange County's geological, topographical and climatic conditions





Thank you!
Questions?
