

# Energy Code Benefits for Contractors



## Do Energy Codes Benefit Builders?

A common myth is that energy codes are *bad* for the construction industry. In fact, energy codes have many benefits for contractors.

By establishing a standard of care, energy code requirements level the playing field and reduce call backs and liability.

Code requirements reward the often invisible work involved in quality construction and careful detailing.

## Energy Codes Generate Jobs and Grow our Economy

### Energy Efficiency = More Construction Jobs

According to Energy Efficiency Jobs in America (2019), more than 1 in 7 U.S. construction workers spend 50% or more of their time in energy efficiency and over half of the energy efficiency workforce is in construction.

As shown below, the vast majority of energy efficiency jobs are in construction. As energy efficiency grows, so does the construction industry.



More than 1 out of every 7 U.S. construction workers spend 50% or more of their time on energy efficiency.



56% of energy efficiency's 2.3 million employees work in construction.

Source: Energy Efficiency Jobs in America, 2019

### Energy Efficiency is a Valuable Investment

Building Energy Codes are carefully engineered to ensure **beneficial return on investment** over the life of the building.

This means a modest upfront investment will pay dividends for your clients year after year. While upfront costs can be painful it means clients will have more money to invest on future projects and grow our economy overall.

### Funding for Your Clients

As an added bonus, when contractors invest in energy efficient construction practices such as air sealing, insulating, installing efficient equipment and retrofitting lighting, there are likely **incentives** to support your clients' projects, especially if you go beyond energy code requirements.

Utility incentive programs can fund up to 100% of efficiency projects creating work for contractors and saving clients money month after month.

**Look to local utility energy efficiency programs in your area to find out if you can participate!**

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## Energy Codes Reduce Risk and Elevate Your Craft

### Energy Codes Level the Playing Field

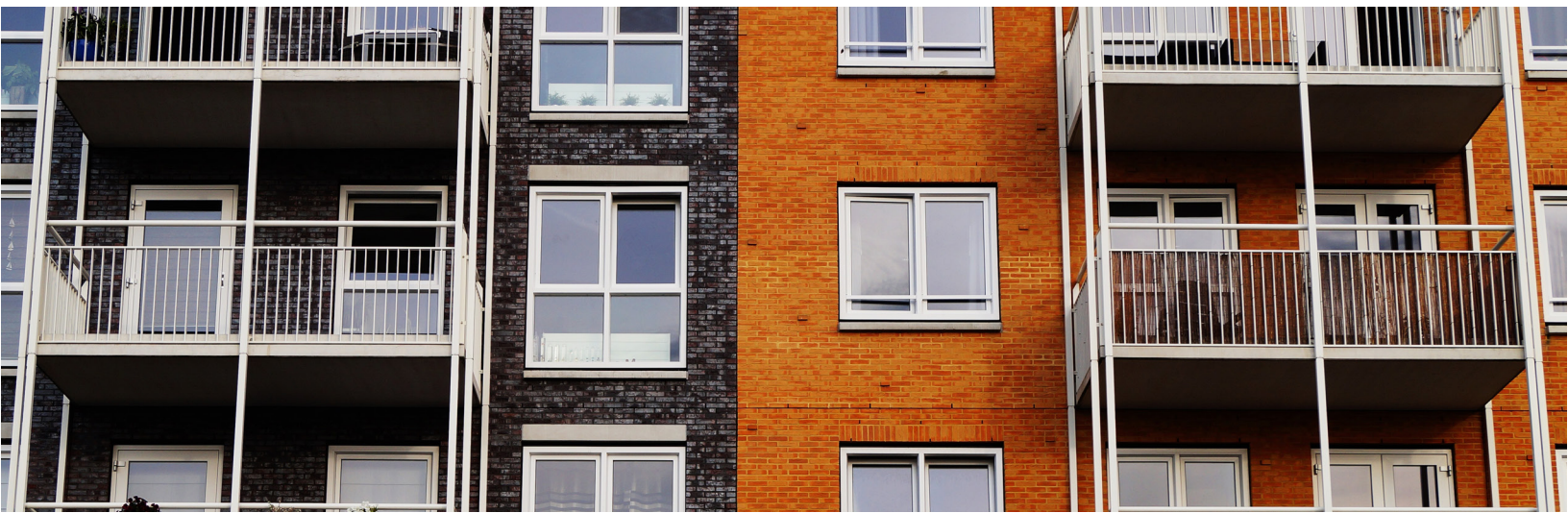
Minimum requirements establish a level of acceptable care which eliminates unfair competitive advantage from contractors who cut corners. This is especially important for aspects of the work that are covered up, such as insulation, and might not be directly obvious to clients.

**Energy codes ensure that the care and investment you make in your work is acknowledged and valued.**

### Energy Efficiency = Better Buildings

Codes are carefully crafted and rely upon years of trial and error. They are guidelines that help you avoid the missteps of the past. Compliance ensures efficient operation by relying on established building science principles that reduce the risk of condensation and other issues while improving indoor air quality and comfort.

**Energy Codes ensure fewer callbacks and more referrals.**



### Energy Codes are Supportive & Flexible

Prescriptive paths to compliance **eliminate guesswork** by providing minimum requirements to build efficient, safe structures.

Meanwhile, the performance path allows contractors and designers ultimate flexibility to **innovate and push the envelope** of energy efficient construction.

**Your team can choose the right path for every project!**

### Have a Question About the Energy Code? Contact Us.

#### WHO WE ARE

SEDAC is the Energy Code Training Provider on behalf of the Illinois EPA Office of Energy. Attend SEDAC's workshops and webinars to learn more. We also offer online courses and technical support.

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