

Illinois Stretch Energy Code

What are the State of Illinois Energy Codes?

Illinois Base Energy Code

Based on 2021 IECC (w/ IL Amendments)

Expected to be Effective in Fall 2023

Applies Statewide (Exception: City of Chicago)

Illinois Stretch Energy Code

Based on 2021 IECC (Residential)
Based on 2024 IECC (Commercial)

Expected to be Available for Municipalities to Adopt in Summer 2024

Required for Buildings in Municipalities that Adopt the Stretch Code

Chicago Energy Transformation Code

Based on 2021 IECC (w/ Chicago Amendments)

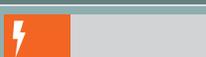
Effective Since 11/1/2022

Applies to Buildings in Chicago

What is the Illinois Stretch Energy Code?

On September 15, 2021, Governor Pritzker signed Senate Bill 2408, enacting the Illinois Energy Transition Act (formerly known as Climate and Equitable Jobs Act, CEJA). One important part of the Act is a provision to create a state stretch energy code. The new state stretch code provides a mechanism for jurisdictions to raise the bar for building energy efficiency, drive down building operational costs, and increase resiliency.

The Illinois Stretch Code must meet specific performance targets for improved energy efficiency, beyond the Illinois Base Energy Code. Every 3 years, the performance targets will decrease building energy use intensity in a predictable manner, moving toward carbon neutrality goals.

Stretch Code Site Energy Index Targets	Commercial 		Residential 	
BASELINE 2006 IECC		100%		100%
2023 Stretch		60%		50%
2025 Stretch		50%		40%
2028 Stretch		44%		33%
2031 Stretch		39%		25%

Note: The performance targets above must be met without including renewable energy sources.

How do the Illinois Base Code and Stretch Code differ?

Illinois Base Energy Code

Illinois Stretch Energy Code

Overview

Overview	Updated Base Code based on 2021 IECC with IL Amendments is expected to be effective in late summer/fall 2023	Effective Date	Expected to be available for adoption by municipalities in summer 2024
	2021 IECC	Reference Model Code	2021 IECC (Residential) 2024 IECC (Commercial)
	Every 3 years, within 18 months of publication of a new IECC version	Expected Updated Code Development Schedule	Every 3 years (except for the first Stretch Code) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer 2024 (postponed) • 12/31/2025 • 12/31/2028 • 12/31/2031
	Statewide (All municipalities) <i>Exceptions:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Chicago • Municipalities that adopt Stretch Code 	Application/Adoption	Municipalities that choose to adopt the Stretch Code (Can adopt only Residential or only Commercial or both provisions)
	Implementation and enforcement will be handled by the same authority that handles other building codes in a community (Authority Having Jurisdiction e.g., Code Building Department)	Implementation/Enforcement	Same as the Base Code
	New, Existing, Addition & Renovation	Building Types	Same as the Base Code

Commercial Provision Key Requirements

Commercial	IECC listed pathways & PHIUS + Appendix CC as an optional pathway	Compliance Paths	Same as the Base Code + All-Electric Appendix option (Mandatory if locally adopted) Modifies ASHRAE 90.1 requirements to include IL Amendments
	Utility Cost	Basis of Performance Path Compliance	Energy Use Intensity (EUI) (Excluding renewables)
	Largely unchanged from previous code cycles	Existing Buildings	Adds "substantial improvement" clauses that trigger additional compliance
	Compliance allowed using any style of equipment	HVAC Equipment	Compliance with heat pump rewarded, gas appliances required to have higher performance to offset emissions

Illinois Base Energy Code		Illinois Stretch Energy Code	
Residential Provision Key Requirements			
Residential	IECC listed pathways + PHIUS	Compliance Paths	Adds Appendix RC and Zero Energy Appendix options
	Energy Cost Intensity	Basis of Performance Path Compliance	Energy Use Intensity (EUI) (Excluding renewables)
	Optional	Electrification	Required: EVSE & Demand Response Capable (Check for local Appendicies)
	3 ACH (50pa)	Air Tightness	2 ACH (50 pa) with ERV or HRV OR Additional Efficiency Credits
<p>Note: The provisions and requirements above are based on currently available information and may be subject to change</p>			

Visit our Website for Stretch Code FAQs and Updates

Learn More

New Building Institute:

Stretch Codes

newbuildings.org/code_policy/utility-programs-stretch-codes/stretch-codes/

Read the Illinois Bill: SB2408

MEEA: Creation of Stretch Code Becomes Law in Illinois

mwalliance.org/blog/creation-stretch-code-becomed-law-illinois

Who We Are

Have a Question About the Energy Code? Contact Us.

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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