

# IZC<sup>®</sup>

INTERNATIONAL  
**ZONING**  
CODE<sup>®</sup>

A Member of the International Code Family<sup>®</sup>

2021



This is a preview. [Click here to purchase the full publication.](#)

# IZC<sup>®</sup>

## INTERNATIONAL **ZONING** CODE<sup>®</sup>

A Member of the International Code Family<sup>®</sup>



# 2021



This is a preview. [Click here to purchase the full publication.](#)

## 2021 International Zoning Code®

Date of First Publication: September 7, 2020

First Printing: September 2020

ISBN: 978-1-60983-975-8 (soft-cover edition)

COPYRIGHT © 2020  
by  
INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL, INC.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. This 2021 *International Zoning Code*® is a copyrighted work owned by the International Code Council, Inc. (“ICC”). Without advance written permission from the ICC, no part of this book may be reproduced, distributed or transmitted in any form or by any means, including, without limitation, electronic, optical or mechanical means (by way of example, and not limitation, photocopying or recording by or in an information storage retrieval system). For information on use rights and permissions, please contact: ICC Publications, 4051 Flossmoor Road, Country Club Hills, IL 60478. Phone 1-888-ICC-SAFE (422-7233).

Trademarks: “International Code Council,” the “International Code Council” logo, “ICC,” the “ICC” logo, “International Zoning Code,” “IZC” and other names and trademarks appearing in this book are trademarks of the International Code Council, Inc., and/or its licensors (as applicable), and may not be used without permission.

# PREFACE

## Introduction

The *International Zoning Code*® (IZC®) establishes minimum requirements for zoning ordinances. This 2021 edition is fully compatible with all of the International Codes® (I-Codes®) published by the International Code Council® (ICC®), including the *International Building Code*® (IBC®), *International Energy Conservation Code*® (IECC®), *International Existing Building Code*® (IEBC®), *International Fire Code*® (IFC®), *International Fuel Gas Code*® (IFGC®), *International Green Construction Code*® (IgCC®), *International Mechanical Code*® (IMC®), *International Plumbing Code*® (IPC®), *International Private Sewage Disposal Code*® (IPSDC®), *International Property Maintenance Code*® (IPMC®), *International Residential Code*® (IRC®), *International Swimming Pool and Spa Code*® (ISPSA®), *International Wildland-Urban Interface Code*® (IWUIC®) and *International Code Council Performance Code*® (ICCP®).

The I-Codes, including this IZC, are used in a variety of ways in both the public and private sectors. Most industry professionals are familiar with the I-Codes as the basis of laws and regulations in communities across the US and in other countries. However, the impact of the codes extends well beyond the regulatory arena, as they are used in a variety of nonregulatory settings, including:

- Voluntary compliance programs such as those promoting sustainability, energy efficiency and disaster resistance.
- The insurance industry, to estimate and manage risk, and as a tool in underwriting and rate decisions.
- Certification and credentialing of individuals involved in the fields of building design, construction and safety.
- Certification of building and construction-related products.
- US federal agencies, to guide construction in an array of government-owned properties.
- Facilities management.
- “Best practices” benchmarks for designers and builders, including those who are engaged in projects in jurisdictions that do not have a formal regulatory system or a governmental enforcement mechanism.
- College, university and professional school textbooks and curricula.
- Reference works related to building design and construction.

In addition to the codes themselves, the code development process brings together building professionals on a regular basis. It provides an international forum for discussion and deliberation about building design, construction methods, safety, performance requirements, technological advances and innovative products.

## Development

This 2021 edition presents the code as originally issued, with changes reflected in the 2003 through 2018 editions and further changes approved by the ICC Code Development Process through 2019. A new edition of the code is promulgated every 3 years.

## Maintenance

The IZC is kept up to date through the review of proposed changes submitted by code enforcement officials, industry representatives, design professionals and other interested parties. Proposed changes are carefully considered through an open code development process in which all interested and affected parties may participate.

The ICC Code Development Process reflects principles of openness, transparency, balance, due process and consensus, the principles embodied in OMB Circular A-119, which governs the federal government’s use of private-sector standards. The ICC process is open to anyone; there is no cost to participate, and people can participate without travel cost through the ICC’s cloud-based app,

cdpAccess®. A broad cross section of interests are represented in the ICC Code Development Process. The codes, which are updated regularly, include safeguards that allow for emergency action when required for health and safety reasons.

In order to ensure that organizations with a direct and material interest in the codes have a voice in the process, the ICC has developed partnerships with key industry segments that support the ICC's important public safety mission. Some code development committee members were nominated by the following industry partners and approved by the ICC Board:

- American Institute of Architects (AIA)
- National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)

The code development committees evaluate and make recommendations regarding proposed changes to the codes. Their recommendations are then subject to public comment and council-wide votes. The ICC's governmental members—public safety officials who have no financial or business interest in the outcome—cast the final votes on proposed changes.

The contents of this work are subject to change through the code development cycles and by any governmental entity that enacts the code into law. For more information regarding the code development process, contact the Codes and Standards Development Department of the ICC.

While the I-Code development procedure is thorough and comprehensive, the ICC, its members and those participating in the development of the codes disclaim any liability resulting from the publication or use of the I-Codes, or from compliance or noncompliance with their provisions. The ICC does not have the power or authority to police or enforce compliance with the contents of this code.

## **Code Development Committee Responsibilities (Letter Designations in Front of Section Numbers)**

In each code development cycle, proposed changes to this code are considered at the Committee Action Hearings by the International Property Maintenance/Zoning Code Development Committee, whose action constitutes a recommendation to the voting membership for final action on the proposed change. Proposed changes to a code section that has a number beginning with a letter in brackets are considered by a different code development committee. For example, proposed changes to definitions that have [BG] in front of them (e.g., Section 202 [BG] DWELLING) are considered by the IBC—General Code Development Committee at the Committee Action Hearing.

The bracketed letter designations for committees responsible for portions of the code are as follows:

[A] = Administrative Code Development Committee; and

[BG] = IBC—General Code Development Committee

For the development of the 2024 edition of the I-Codes, there will be two groups of code development committees and they will meet in separate years, as shown in the following Code Development Hearings Table.

Code change proposals submitted for code sections that have a letter designation in front of them will be heard by the respective committee responsible for such code sections. Because different committees hold Committee Action Hearings in different years, proposals for the IZC will be heard by committees in both the 2021 (Group A) and the 2022 (Group B) code development cycles.

For example, every section of Chapter 1 of this code is designated as the responsibility of the Administrative Code Development Committee, which is part of the Group B portion of the hearings. This committee will hold its code development hearings in 2022 to consider all code change proposals for Chapter 1 of all I-Codes except the IECC, IRC and IgCC. Therefore, any proposals received for Chapter 1 of this code will be assigned to the Administrative Code Development Committee for consideration in 2022.



It is very important that anyone submitting code change proposals understands which code development committee is responsible for the section of the code that is the subject of the code change proposal. For further information on the Code Development Committee responsibilities, please visit the ICC website at [www.iccsafe.org/current-code-development-cycle](http://www.iccsafe.org/current-code-development-cycle).

#### CODE DEVELOPMENT HEARINGS

<b>Group A Codes (Heard in 2021, Code Change Proposals Deadline: January 11, 2021)</b>	<b>Group B Codes (Heard in 2022, Code Change Proposals Deadline: January 10, 2022)</b>
<b>International Building Code</b> – Egress (Chapters 10, 11, Appendix E) – Fire Safety (Chapters 7, 8, 9, 14, 26) – General (Chapters 2–6, 12, 27–33, Appendices A, B, C, D, K, N)	Administrative Provisions (Chapter 1 of all codes except IECC, IRC and IgCC; IBC Appendix O; the appendices titled “Board of Appeals” for all codes except IECC, IRC, IgCC, ICCPC and IZC; administrative updates to currently referenced standards; and designated definitions)
<b>International Fire Code</b>	<b>International Building Code</b> – Structural (Chapters 15–25, Appendices F, G, H, I, J, L, M)
<b>International Fuel Gas Code</b>	<b>International Existing Building Code</b>
<b>International Mechanical Code</b>	<b>International Energy Conservation Code—Commercial</b>
<b>International Plumbing Code</b>	<b>International Energy Conservation Code—Residential</b> – IECC—Residential – IRC—Energy (Chapter 11)
<b>International Property Maintenance Code</b>	<b>International Green Construction Code</b> (Chapter 1)
<b>International Private Sewage Disposal Code</b>	<b>International Residential Code</b> – IRC—Building (Chapters 1–10; Appendices AE, AF, AH, AJ, AK, AL, AM, AO, AQ, AR, AS, AT, AU, AV, AW)
<b>International Residential Code</b> – IRC—Mechanical (Chapters 12–23) – IRC—Plumbing (Chapters 25–33, Appendices AG, AI, AN, AP)	
<b>International Swimming Pool and Spa Code</b>	
<b>International Wildland-Urban Interface Code</b>	
<b>International Zoning Code</b>	

**Note:** Proposed changes to the ICCPC will be heard by the code development committee noted in brackets [ ] in the text of the ICCPC.

## Marginal Markings

Solid vertical lines in the margins within the body of the code indicate a technical change from the requirements of the 2018 edition. Deletion indicators in the form of an arrow (➡) are provided in the margin where an entire section, paragraph, exception or table has been deleted or an item in a list of items or a row of a table has been deleted.

A single asterisk [\*] placed in the margin indicates that text or a table has been relocated within the code. A double asterisk [\*\*] placed in the margin indicates that the text or table immediately following

it has been relocated there from elsewhere in the code. The following table indicates such relocations in the 2021 edition of the IZC.

RELOCATIONS	
2021 LOCATION	2018 LOCATION
106	110
107	111
108	106
109	107
110	108
111	109

## Coordination of the International Codes

The coordination of technical provisions is one of the strengths of the ICC family of model codes. The codes can be used as a complete set of complementary documents, which will provide users with full integration and coordination of technical provisions. Individual codes can also be used in subsets or as stand-alone documents. To make sure that each individual code is as complete as possible, some technical provisions that are relevant to more than one subject area are duplicated in some of the model codes. This allows users maximum flexibility in their application of the I-Codes.

## Italicized Terms

Terms italicized in code text, other than document titles, are defined in Chapter 2. The terms selected to be italicized have definitions that the user should read carefully to better understand the code. Where italicized, the Chapter 2 definition applies. If not italicized, common-use definitions apply.

## Adoption

The ICC maintains a copyright in all of its codes and standards. Maintaining copyright allows the ICC to fund its mission through sales of books, in both print and electronic formats. The ICC welcomes adoption of its codes by jurisdictions that recognize and acknowledge the ICC's copyright in the code, and further acknowledge the substantial shared value of the public/private partnership for code development between jurisdictions and the ICC.

The ICC also recognizes the need for jurisdictions to make laws available to the public. All I-Codes and I-Standards, along with the laws of many jurisdictions, are available for free in a nondownloadable form on the ICC's website. Jurisdictions should contact the ICC at [adoptions@iccsafe.org](mailto:adoptions@iccsafe.org) to learn how to adopt and distribute laws based on the IZC in a manner that provides necessary access, while maintaining the ICC's copyright.

To facilitate adoption, several sections of this code contain blanks for fill-in information that needs to be supplied by the adopting jurisdiction as part of the adoption legislation. For this code, please see:

Section 101.1. Insert: **[NAME OF JURISDICTION]**

Section 110.2.2. Insert **[NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS]**

Table 302.1. Insert **[MINIMUM AREAS]**

Section 1008.1.1. Insert **[SIGN AREA]**

Table 1008.1.1(1). Insert **[SIGN AREAS IN THREE LOCATIONS]**

Table 1008.1.1(2). Insert **[PERCENTAGE OF BUILDING ELEVATION IN THREE LOCATIONS]**

Table 1008.1.2. Insert [NO. OF SIGNS, HEIGHT AND AREA IN 10 LOCATIONS]

Section 1008.1.3. Insert [SIGN AREAS IN TWO LOCATIONS]

Section 1008.2.1. Insert [SIGN HEIGHTS AND SIGN AREAS IN EIGHT LOCATIONS]

Section 1008.2.2. Insert [SIGN HEIGHTS AND AREA IN 10 LOCATIONS]

Section 1008.2.3. Insert [SIGN AREAS IN THREE LOCATIONS]

Section 1008.2.5. Insert [SIGN HEIGHT AND AREA IN TWO LOCATIONS]

Section 1008.2.6. Insert [SIGN HEIGHT AND AREA IN TWO LOCATIONS]

Section 1008.3.3. Insert [SIGN AREA, HEIGHT, PROJECTION AND VERTICAL DISTANCE IN SIX LOCATIONS]

Section 1008.3.4. Insert [SIGN AREA AND VERTICAL DISTANCE IN TWO LOCATIONS]

Section 1008.3.5. Insert [SIGN HEIGHT IN TWO LOCATIONS]

## Effective Use of the International Zoning Code

The IZC is a model code that regulates minimum zoning requirements for new buildings.

The IZC is a planning and community development document. The IZC is intended to provide for the arrangement of compatible buildings and land uses and establish provisions for the location of all types of uses, in the interest of the social and economic welfare of the community.