

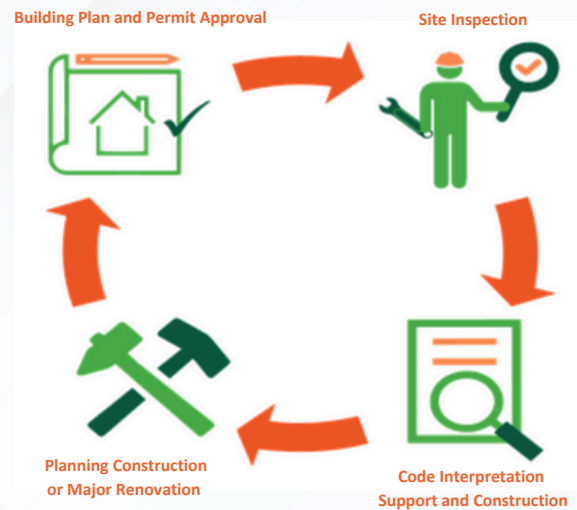
A Career in Building Code Enforcement

Are you seeking a meaningful career that benefits your community and makes buildings safer and more resilient? Becoming a Code Enforcement Official might be the perfect fit for you.

Building codes set minimum requirements for how plumbing, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), and other aspects of residential and commercial buildings should be designed and constructed in new buildings. Enforcing these codes ensures that buildings are safe, durable, resilient, comfortable, and energy efficient. Code Enforcement Officials, who might also be referred to as Building Code Inspectors, Building Code Officials, Code Officials, or Code Inspectors, play a critical role in upholding these standards to create a secure environment for all.

Role and Duties of a Code Enforcement Official

- Review construction plans to guarantee they comply with building codes and zoning regulations.
- Administer permits and conduct plan reviews for construction projects.
- Conduct building inspections to ensure compliance with codes and regulations.
- Investigate complaints and resolve code-related violations to maintain public safety.



Source: ICC, Value of the Code Official

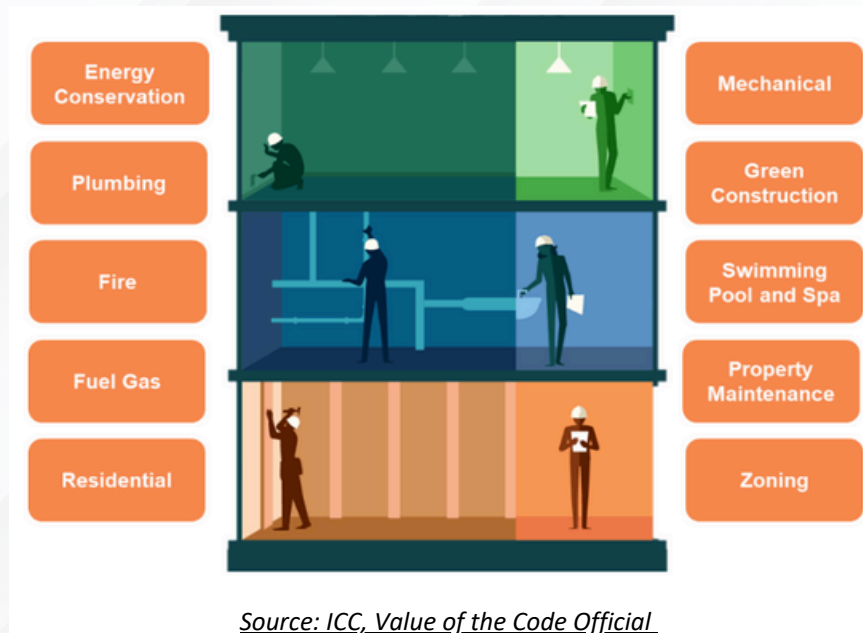
Essential Qualifications and Skills:

- Knowledge of [state and local building code](#) regulations and safety standards.
- Computer skills, including using spreadsheets and database software.
- Ability to read and understand blueprints and schematics.
- Detail-oriented and strong organizational and problem-solving skills.
- Effective communication abilities, both verbal and written.
- Ability to work independently.
- Valid driver's license.

Education, Training, and Experience

| Required Education and Training: | Preferred Education and Training: | Preferred Experience: |
|--|---|--|
| High school diploma or equivalent. On-the-job training. | Two- or four-year degree in construction science, construction management, architecture, engineering, or related field; education, training, or experience with green buildings and energy efficiency industry. | Construction trade experience; working as a carpenter, electrician, plumber, architect, engineer, or contractor, or have completed related training or apprenticeship program. |

Codes Area of Focus



Work Environment

- Indoor office tasks
- Fieldwork for site inspections, which could involve climbing, navigating tight spaces during inspections



Benefits of a Career in Code Enforcement

- **Job security:** With a consistent need for code enforcement professionals, you'll enjoy stability in your career.
- **No college degree required:** You can enter the field of code enforcement without a traditional two- or four-year degree.
- **Field-based work:** Some of your daily tasks and interactions will take place directly within the community, breaking away from the traditional desk job.
- **Opportunities for growth:** With the potential to [specialize in areas of code enforcement](#), you can continue to develop your skills and advance in your career.
- **National Median Pay for 2022:** [\\$64,480](#)
- **Make a difference in your community:** You can help make your community more resilient, lower energy bills, reduce harmful pollution, and have a meaningful impact on buildings and people within your community.

Career Pathway for Aspiring Professionals

- **Step 1:** Research state and local requirements for code enforcement officials by contacting your local building department. You can find contact information and more on the State Page [here](#).
- **Step 2:** Pursue relevant education, apprenticeship, and training programs to enhance your skills. You can access a list of education, apprenticeship, and training programs offered in the Northeast region [here](#).
- **Step 3:** Gain practical experience through internships or entry-level positions in the construction industry or local government.
- **Step 4:** Obtain certifications from organizations like the [International Code Council](#), the [International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials](#), the [International Association of Electrical Inspectors](#), and the [International Association of Certified Home Inspectors](#) can enhance your credentials and job prospects.
- **Step 5:** Stay updated with industry developments by following and participating in [professional organizations and associations](#) and attending conferences.

Resources for Further Exploration

- International Code Council, [Mentor Program](#)
- International Code Council, [Introduction to Building Codes](#)
- International Code Council, [Training and Certification](#)



Begin your journey as a Code Enforcement Official today and make a long-lasting investment in yourself and in your community's safety and well-being.