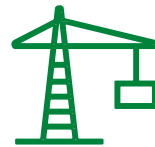


EFFICIENT, AFFORDABLE, RESILIENT BUILDINGS



An Unprecedented Opportunity to Invest in Our Buildings through Updated Building Energy Codes

States, territories, tribal governments, and local governments, with the support of partnering organizations, have a unique opportunity to leverage significant federal funding to support improvements to new and existing buildings in jurisdictions across the country. The Department of Energy (DOE) launched two related grant programs that government entities with the authority to adopt building energy codes, and their partner organizations, can access in support of the adoption, and implementation of building energy codes. Building energy codes improved substantially over the last 40 years with a long history of cost-effectively lowering energy bills, improving indoor air quality, and leading to more durable and resilient buildings. Since states and localities adopt new versions of the building code at different rates, and with different variations to meet their unique needs and priorities, there is a broad spectrum of building energy performance represented by the energy codes in effect across the country. The DOE grant programs, listed below, provide flexible opportunities that can meet jurisdictions where they are and assist them in taking meaningful steps to bring the benefits of building energy codes to their communities.



Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Codes– \$1 billion to support the adoption and implementation of the latest building energy codes, zero energy building codes, or innovative codes such as building performance standards, with equivalent energy savings.

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Codes (Resilient and Efficient Codes Implementation) – \$225 million to support the implementation of updated codes along with the development of critical partnerships and supportive scaffolding to accelerate workforce training, stakeholder engagement, and resilient outcomes.

For jurisdictions interested in advancing their energy code, there are various levels of improvement that can be achieved – whether it is an incremental step to the next code version, adopting the latest model codes, or implementing a zero energy or innovative code, both DOE programs provide the flexibility to support those advancements. For each improvement, communities can realize deeper and different benefits – including energy and utility bill savings, emissions reductions, resilience to natural hazards, reduced energy cost burden, improved air quality, and more.

Where to begin?

Both the IRA Codes and Resilient and Efficient Codes Implementation (RECI) programs are designed with flexibility in mind to support jurisdictions seeking to realize the benefits of building energy codes. The following information is provided to help guide jurisdictions and their supporting partners through these two programs:



1) *Does the applicant have authority to adopt building energy codes?*

Eligible grantees for IRA Codes funding are States and units of local government that have the authority to adopt building codes – these entities must be the Prime applicant for IRA Codes grants. Under RECI, eligible grantees also include supporting organizations – provided that a State or Tribal Nation is part of the project team.

2) *Where is the focus – residential or commercial, new construction or existing buildings?*

Both the IRA Codes and RECI programs provide support for **residential and commercial** building code updates and supporting activities. Building energy codes for **new construction and major renovations** are supported by both IRA Codes and RECI. Jurisdictions targeting energy savings in **existing buildings** can pursue either funding opportunity. Building performance standards are a common example of an innovative approach to energy codes covering existing buildings that ensure measurable, verifiable, and enforceable outcomes.

3) *Where do different types of building energy code adoption efforts best fit?*

Jurisdictions considering an **incremental code update**, but not necessarily to the latest model building energy code, can consider RECI as the opportunity best suited to their needs. Jurisdictions considering the **latest model codes** or going further with a **zero energy code, stretch code, or BPS**, can consider either the IRA Codes or RECI funding opportunities. If the code, or innovative code, being proposed delivers equivalent or greater energy savings than the latest model code or zero energy code, IRA Codes is the most aligned program.

4) *What are the priorities to emphasize so that the community can realize these benefits?*

Both IRA Codes and RECI support additional activities in the areas of workforce development, capacity building, stakeholder engagement, affordability and energy cost burden, compliance and implementation tool development, and more, provided they are aligned with the adoption, and implementation of a qualified code update. Building energy codes are part of a broader suite of codes that govern residential and commercial buildings – both IRA Codes and RECI support a comprehensive approach to code updates if there are other complementary codes that can be improved alongside a qualified building energy code update.

Whether considering a code update for the first time in a decade or pursuing an innovative approach to realizing community benefits, grantees under these programs can look to DOE and the National Laboratories for support and assistance with quantitative analysis needs, technical drafting, best practices, impact analyses, workforce development, software support, and more.

DOE Building Energy Code Grants – Overview

The following table provides a summary of the funds available from DOE to support the adoption and implementation of building energy codes. These programs can be used independently or in combination to support a series of complementary, distinct, activities to meet jurisdictions’ needs.

	Resilient and Efficient Code Implementation (RECI)	Assistance for the Adoption of the Latest and Zero Building Energy Codes	
	Competitive	Formula	Competitive
Funding Document	FOA - Competitive	ALRD - Formula	FOA - Competitive
Funding Amounts	\$225M	\$400M	\$530M
Eligible Applicants (Prime)	Anyone, including supporting organizations – provided that a State or Tribal Nation is part of the project team	States and Territories only with the authority to adopt building energy codes	States, Territories, and units of local government with the authority to adopt building codes
Code Adoption (Required)	Any energy code update or BPS can be considered	Latest model energy (ASHRAE 90.1-2019 and IECC 2021) codes, zero energy codes, or codes that DOE pre-approved	Latest model energy codes, zero energy codes, or innovative codes with equivalent energy savings (e.g., BPS or custom code)
Complementary Activities (Examples)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce Development • Analysis and Technical Drafting • Resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Software Development • Stakeholder Engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity Building and Partnerships • Supporting Compliance
Period of Performance	Up to 5 years	Up to 9 years	Up to 9 years
Program Website	RECI	IRA Codes	
Program Contact	RECI_FOA@ee.doe.gov	IRACodes@hq.doe.gov	
Program Newsletter Signup	RECI Newsletter	IRA Codes Newsletter	