

**SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO THE  
Florida Building Code:  
Building and Residential  
2023 Edition**

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# Preface

The purpose of *Significant Changes to the Florida Building Code: Building and Residential, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023)* is to familiarize building officials, fire officials, plans examiners, inspectors, design professionals, contractors and others in the construction industry with many of the important changes in the *8<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) Florida Building Code, Building (FBCB)* and the *8<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) Florida Building Code, Residential (FBCR)*. This publication is designed to assist those code users in identifying the specific code changes that have occurred and, more importantly, understanding the reasons behind the changes. It is also a valuable resource for jurisdictions in their code adoption process.

Only a portion of the total number of code changes to the FBCB and FBCR are discussed in this book. The changes selected were identified for a number of reasons, including the frequency of application, special significance or change in application. However, the importance of those changes not included is not to be diminished. Further information on all code changes can be found on the Building Code Information System at [www.floridabuilding.org](http://www.floridabuilding.org) under the "Proposed Code Modifications" section.

This book is organized into two main sections: Significant Changes to the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) FBCB and Significant Changes to the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) FBCR.

Throughout the book, each change is accompanied by a photograph, an application example or an illustration to assist and enhance the reader's understanding of the specific change. A summary and a discussion of the significance of the changes are also provided. Each code change is identified by type, either an addition, modification, clarification or deletion.

The code change itself is presented in a format similar to the style utilized for code-change proposals. Deleted code language is shown with a strike-through, and new code text is indicated by underlining. As a result, the actual 8<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) code language is provided as well as a comparison with the 7<sup>th</sup> Edition (2020) code language, so the user can easily determine changes to the specific code text.

As with any code-change text, *Significant Changes to the Florida Building Code: Building and Residential, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023)* is best used as a study companion to the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) FBCB and FBCR. Because only a limited discussion of each change is provided, the code itself should al-

ways be referenced to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the code change and its application.

The commentary and opinions set forth in this text are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the ICC, the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, or the Florida Building Commission. In addition, they may not represent the views of any enforcing agency, as such agencies have the sole authority to render interpretations of the FBCB and FBCR. In many cases, the explanatory material is derived from the reasoning expressed by the code-change proponent.

Comments concerning this publication are encouraged and may be directed to the ICC at [significantchanges@iccsafe.org](mailto:significantchanges@iccsafe.org).

## **About the *Florida Building Code***

The Florida Building Code is based on national model building codes and national consensus standards, in addition to Florida-specific provisions. The code incorporates all building construction-related regulations for public and private buildings in the State of Florida other than those specifically exempted by Section 553.73, Florida Statutes. It has been harmonized with the Florida Fire Prevention Code, which is developed and maintained by the Department of Financial Services, Office of the State Fire Marshal, to establish unified and consistent standards.

The model codes used for the Florida Building Code, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition (2023) include: the 2021 editions of the International Building Code®; the International Plumbing Code®; the International Mechanical Code®; the International Fuel Gas Code®; the International Residential Code®; the International Existing Building Code®; the International Energy Conservation Code®; the National Electrical Code, 2020 edition; or substantive criteria from ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2019. State and local codes adopted and incorporated into the code include the Florida Building Code, Accessibility, and special hurricane protection standards for the High-Velocity Hurricane Zone.

The code is composed of nine main volumes: the Florida Building Code, Building, which also includes state regulations for licensed facilities; the Florida Building Code, Plumbing; the Florida Building Code, Mechanical; the Florida Building Code, Fuel Gas; the Florida Building Code, Existing Building; the Florida Building Code, Residential; the Florida Building Code, Energy Conservation; the Florida Building Code, Accessibility and the Florida Building Code, Test Protocols for High-Velocity Hurricane Zones. Chapter 27 of the Florida Building Code, Building, adopts the National Electrical Code, NFPA 70, by reference.

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The International Code Council is the leading global source of model codes and standards and building safety solutions that include product evaluation, accreditation, technology, codification, consulting, training and certification. The International Code Council's codes, standards and solutions are used to ensure safe, affordable and sustainable communities and buildings worldwide.

The International Code Council family of solutions includes the ICC Evaluation Service (ICC ES), S. K. Ghosh Associates, the International Accreditation Service (IAS), General Code, ICC NTA, ICC Community Development Solutions, Alliance for National & Community Resilience (ANCR) and American Legal Publishing.

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