

### CONSTRUCTION CODES

#### **Commercial**

2021 International Building Code  
2021 International Existing Building Code  
2021 International Fire Code  
2021 Uniform Mechanical Code  
2021 Uniform Plumbing Code  
2023 National Electrical Code (State Mandated)  
2021 International Energy Conservation Code, or  
ASHRAE 90.1-2019

#### **Residential**

2021 International Residential Code  
2021 International Existing Building Code  
2021 International Energy Conservation Code

**Note:** All construction codes on this list have been amended by the City of Houston. To access the amendments, visit: <https://www.houstonpermittingcenter.org/construction-code-modernization/code-amendment>

### STRUCTURAL REQUIREMENTS\*

#### **Basic Wind Speed Enforcing ASCE/SEI 7-2022 Edition:**

**IRC** - Site specific\* (See ASCE 7 Windspeed Website: <https://asce7hazardtool.online/>)

**IBC** - Site specific\* (See ASCE 7 Windspeed Website: <https://asce7hazardtool.online/>)

**Seismic Design Category:** A

**Weathering Probability:** Negligible (IRC)\*

#### **Roof Design Load\*:**

**IRC** - Varies (Refer to Table R301.6)\*

**IBC** - Varies (Refer to Table 1607.1)\*

**Soil Class:** Expansive\*

**Wind Exposure Category:** B\*

**Ground Snow Load:** 0\*

**Frost Line Depth:** 6 inches\*

**Maximum rainfall rate:** 8 inches/hour\*

\* These are general requirements for Houston and certain conditions may vary depending on the location.

### PLAN REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

- Complete set of plans
- Applicable Energy Software Report, or prescriptive compliance shown on the plans
- TDLR numbers for accessibility: <https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/ab/abtas.htm>
- Asbestos Survey for existing building(s) – (TDH Toxic Substances Control Division • (800) 572-5548)

**Note:** Although every effort is made to ensure accuracy, the code specifications identified in the Houston Construction Code always prevail over information provided in handouts. This information is general in nature. For minimum submittal requirements, please refer to the prerequisite checklists online at <https://www.houstonpermittingcenter.org/resources>. For specific questions, consult with a Senior Plan Analyst at [commercial.planreview@houstontx.gov](mailto:commercial.planreview@houstontx.gov) or [residential.planreview@houstontx.gov](mailto:residential.planreview@houstontx.gov) or by calling 832-394-8810 or Senior Structural Inspector at [structural.inspections@houstontx.gov](mailto:structural.inspections@houstontx.gov) or calling (832) 394-8840.

### WEBSITE INFORMATION

Check plan review status and schedule inspections - [www.houstonpermittingcenter.org/our-services/eservices](http://www.houstonpermittingcenter.org/our-services/eservices)  
Building Code Enforcement Home Page - [www.houstonpermittingcenter.org/building-code-enforcement](http://www.houstonpermittingcenter.org/building-code-enforcement)  
Public Works and Engineering website - [www.publicworks.houstontx.gov](http://www.publicworks.houstontx.gov)  
Planning and Development website - [www.houstontx.gov/planning](http://www.houstontx.gov/planning)  
Fire Department website - [www.houstontx.gov/fire/](http://www.houstontx.gov/fire/)  
City Website - [www.houstontx.gov](http://www.houstontx.gov)