

The City of Philadelphia is governed by the Pa Construction Code Act (PCCA), which mandates the adoption of a Uniform Construction Code (UCC) across the Commonwealth. In accordance with the PCCA, the 2021 International Codes—subject to modifications adopted by the Pa Department of Labor & Industry—will take effect statewide in July 2025.

The Act also allows municipalities to adopt local amendments that meet or exceed the requirements of the Pa UCC.

This proposed ordinance acknowledges the adoption of the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), as modified under the Pa UCC. Modifications to the IECC made by the Pa Department of Labor & Industry are identified with the clause: “Pursuant to the UCC.”

Additionally, the ordinance proposes local amendments to retain specific IECC provisions that were removed from the Pa UCC. These provisions are listed in the accompanying tables.

Where applicable, corresponding sections from Part IV (Energy Conservation) of the 2021 International Residential Code (IRC)—which aligns with the IECC-Residential—are noted in parentheses. These provisions apply to all one- and two-family dwellings, as well as multifamily dwellings that are three stories or fewer.

IECC- Residential Code Section (IRC section in parentheses, where applicable)	Code Provision
R401.2.5, R408.1, R408.2 (N1101.13.5, N1108.1, N1108.2)	Require an additional energy package to improve efficiency. The developer/ builder can select from 5 options, allowing for the most economical solution for the project.
R403.3.5, R403.3.6 (N1003.3.5, N1103.3.6)	Require air leakage testing for ducts within the building thermal envelope.
R404.1 (N1104.1.)	Increase required percentage of high efficacy lamps from 90% to 100%.
R404.1.1	Sets limits for exterior lighting loads serving multi-family buildings.
R404.2 (N1104.2)	Require rooms with permanently installed lights to be controlled by dimmers or occupancy sensors.
R404.3 (N1104.3)	Require automatic shut-off or light-sensing controls for exterior lighting exceeding 30 watts.