CURRENT BUILDING CODES & Design Criteria

BUILDING SERVICES

The California Building Standards Commission updates construction codes on a three-year cycle. Each jurisdiction within the State is mandated to adopt and enforce these codes as they become effective.

Current Building Codes

Effective Date: January 1, 2026

- 2025 California Administrative Code (CAC)
- 2025 California Building Code (CBC)
- 2025 California Residential Code (CRC)
- 2025 California Electrical Code (CEC)
- 2025 California Mechanical Code (CMC)
- 2025 California Plumbing Code (CPC)
- 2025 California Energy Code (CEC)
- 2025 California Fire Code (CFC)
- 2025 California Green Building Standards Code (CAL Green)
- 2025 Wildland-Urban Interface Code

Links to the codes & code related materials:

- Outside link to the California Building Codes
- Outside link to Content Updates to California Building Codes
- 2025 Building Energy Efficiency Standards and Forms

Lateral Design Criteria:

- Wind Exposure: C, unless site complies with definition for Exposure B
- Wind Loads: As determined by CBC Section 1609 and Chapters 26-30 of ASCE 7-16
- Seismic Design Category (SDC): As determined by CBC Section 1613.2.5
- Seismic Parameters and Load: As determined by CBC Section 1613 and Chapter 12 of ASCE 7-16

Soil Properties:

- Geotechnical Report required for Nonresidential and Multifamily Projects.
- For Residential Projects, contact the Building Department.
- For all other projects, the following soil values per CBC listed below shall be used unless less conservative values are justified by a Geotechnical Report:

Soil Site Class	D	CBC Section 1613.2.2
Bearing Pressure	1500 psf	CBC Section 1806
Lateral Bearing Pressure	100 psf	CBC Section 1806
Coefficient of Friction	0.25	CBC Section 1806
Allowable Shaft Resistance	250 psf	CBC Section 1810.3.3.1.4
Lateral Soil Load, Active Pressure	60 psf/ft	CBC Section 1610
Lateral Soil Load, At-Rest Pressure	100 psf/ft	CBC Section 1610

Energy Design Criteria:

- Climate Zone 12