
For Immediate Release: Wednesday, November 15, 2017

MERIDIAN – Beginning Monday, January 1st, 2018, Meridian Community Development Services will be adopting the following code versions.

- 2015 International Building Code
- 2015 International Existing Building Code
- 2017 Idaho (Uniform) Plumbing Code
- 2015 Idaho Fire Code
- 2017 National Electrical Code
- 2012 Idaho Residential Code (No change)
- 2012 Fuel and Gas Code (No Change)
- 2012 Mechanical Code (No Change)

2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) with 2012 amendments for the Residential portion.

*Under the language of the rule adopting the IECC the 2015 version was adopted. It then was amended to the 2012 IECC language for residential application.

The following Idaho Administrative Procedures Act (IDAPA) amendments to the 2012 IECC language for the residential portion shall also apply:

1. Delete the 2012 Insulation and Fenestration Requirements and replace with the 2009 values.
2. Add footnote (k) for residential log home building thermal envelope construction requirements.
3. Delete the 2012 Equivalent U-Factors values and replace with the 2009 values.
4. Delete the 2012 Steel-Frame Ceiling, Wall, and Floor Insulation (R-values) and replace with the 2009 values.
5. Delete the Total UA alternative and replace with the following: Building thermal envelope. The building thermal envelope shall comply with the Insulation and fenestration criteria and either R-value computation or U-factor alternative. The sealing methods between dissimilar materials shall allow for differential expansion and contraction.
6. Delete the building thermal envelope installation requirements and replace with the following: Installation. The components of the building thermal envelope shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and the criteria listed in the air barrier and insulation installation table, as applicable to the method of construction.
7. Delete the air barrier criteria requirement for the "Fireplace" component. - An air barrier shall be installed on fireplace walls. Gasketed doors are not required on fireplaces.
8. Delete the building thermal envelope testing section and replace with the following: Testing option, Building envelope tightness and insulation installation shall be considered acceptable when tested air leakage is less than seven (7) air changes per hour (ACH) when tested with a blower door at a pressure of 33.5 psf (50 Pa). Testing shall occur after rough in and after

- installation of Penetrations of the building envelope, including penetrations for utilities, plumbing, electrical, ventilation and combustion appliances. During testing:
- i. Exterior windows and doors, fireplace and stove doors shall be closed, but not sealed;
 - ii. Dampers shall be closed, but not sealed, including exhaust, intake, makeup air, backdraft and flue dampers;
 - iii. Interior doors shall be open;
 - iv. Exterior openings for continuous ventilation systems and heat recovery ventilators shall be closed and sealed;
 - v. Heating and cooling system(s) shall be turned off;
 - vi. HVAC ducts shall not be sealed; and
 - vii. Supply and return registers shall not be sealed.
9. Add the following: Visual inspection option, Building envelope tightness and insulation installation shall be considered acceptable when the items listed in the Air Barrier and Insulation Installation Table, applicable to the method of construction, are field verified. Where required by code official an approved party independent from the installer of the insulation shall inspect the air barrier and insulation.
 10. Add a Residential Log Home Thermal Envelope section. Add the following: Residential log home construction shall comply with sections: (General residential buildings), (Air Leakage), (Maximum Fenestration U-Factor and SHGC), (Mandatory Controls), (Mandatory Sealing), (Building Cavities), Mandatory mechanical system piping insulation provisions), (Mandatory Electrical Power and Lighting Systems), and either i., ii., or iii. as follows:
 - i. Prescriptive Specific insulation and Fenestration requirements (Sections R402.2 through R402.3), Prescriptive duct insulation requirements (Section R403.2.1), Mandatory lighting equipment (Section R404.1 and Table R402.6);
 - ii. Simulated Performance Alternative (Section R405);
 - iii. REScheck (U.S. Department of Energy Building Codes Program).
 11. Log Home Prescriptive Thermal Envelope Requirements by Component Table. To be used only in accordance with item i. of the Residential Log Home Thermal Envelope section above.
 12. Delete the Mandatory Lighting Equipment section and replace with the following: Lighting equipment (Mandatory). A minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the lamps in permanently installed lighting fixtures shall be high-efficacy lamps or a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the permanently installed lighting fixtures shall contain only high efficacy lamps.

the requirements of this section; and 2. Installation, alteration or repairs of noncombustion plumbing or mechanical systems are exempt from the requirements of this section. (3-20-14)

l. Delete IRC section R322.1.10. (3-29-10)

m. Delete IRC section R322.2.2 subparagraph 2.2, and replace with the following: The total net area of all openings shall be at least one (1) square inch (645 mm²) for each square foot (0.093 m²) of enclosed area, or the opening shall be designed and the construction documents shall include a statement that the design and installation of the openings will provide for equalization of hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters. (3-20-14)

n. Delete IRC section R501.3 and its exceptions. (3-20-14)

o. Delete IRC section R602.10 and replace with the following: Wall bracing. Buildings shall be braced in accordance with this section or, when applicable section R602.12, or the most current edition of APA System Report SR-102 as an alternate method. Where a building, or portion thereof, does not comply with one (1) or more of the bracing requirements in this section, those portions shall be designated and constructed in accordance with section R301.1. (3-20-14)

p. Chapter 11 [RE] Energy Efficiency - The following sections and tables of chapter 11 shall be amended in accordance with the requirements contained below in Subsection 004.04 of these rules which correspond to the appropriate section: (3-20-14)

i. Table N1102.1.1 (Table R402.1.1) - Insulation and Fenestration Requirements by Component; (3-20-14)

ii. Table N1102.1.3 (Table R402.1.3 - Equivalent U-Factors; (3-20-14)

iii. Table N1102.2.6 (Table R402.2.6) - Steel-Frame Ceiling, Wall and Floor Insulation (R-Value); (3-20-14)

iv. Section N1102.4.1 (R402.4.1) Building Thermal Envelope; (3-20-14)

v. Section N1102.4.1.1 (R402.4.1.1) - Insulation; (3-20-14)

vi. Table N1102.4.1.1 (Table R402.4.1.1) - Air Barrier and Insulation Installation; (3-20-14)

vii. Section N1102.4.1.2 (R402.4.1.2) Testing Option; (3-20-14)

viii. Add Section N1102.4.1.3 (R402.4.1.3) - Visual Inspection Option; (3-20-14)

ix. Add Section N1102.6 (R402.6) - Residential Log Home Thermal Envelope; (3-20-14)

x. Add Table N1102.6 (Table R402.6) - Log Home Prescriptive Thermal Envelope Requirements by Component; and (3-20-14)

xi. Section N1104.1 (R404.1) - Lighting Equipment. (3-20-14)

03. **International Existing Building Code.** 2015 Edition. (3-29-17)

04. **International Energy Conservation Code.** 2015 Edition with the following amendments: (3-29-17)

a. Delete the Residential Provisions of the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) set forth in chapters 1 [RE] through 6 [RE], including Appendix RA (pages R-1 through R-57), and replace with the Residential Provisions of the 2012 IECC set forth therein in chapters 1 [RE] through 5 [RE] (pages R-1 through R-47) and as such provisions may be further amended herein these rules. (3-29-17)

b. Add the following as new subsection C101.5.3: Industrial, electronic, and manufacturing equipment. Buildings or portions thereof that are heated or cooled exclusively to maintain the required operating temperature of industrial, electronic, or manufacturing equipment shall be exempt from the provisions of this code. Such buildings or portions thereof shall be separated from connected conditioned space by building thermal envelope assemblies complying with this code. (3-25-16)

c. Add the following exception No. (10) under section C403.3 Economizers (Prescriptive): Unusual outdoor air contaminate conditions – Systems where special outside air filtration and treatment for the reduction and treatment of unusual outdoor contaminants, makes an air economizer infeasible. (3-29-17)

d. Delete the values contained in Table R402.1.1 (Table N1102.1.1) for climate zone “5 and Marine 4” and climate zone “6” and replace with the following: (3-20-14)

TABLE R402.1.1 INSULATION AND FENESTRATION REQUIREMENTS BY COMPONENT										
Climate Zone	Fenestration U- Factor	Skylight U-factor	Glazed Fenestration SHGC	Ceiling R-Value	Wood Frame Wall R-Value	Mass Wall R-Value	Floor R-Value	Basement Wall R-Value	Slab R-Value	Crawlspace Wall R-Value
5 and Marine 4	0.35	0.60	NR	38	20 or 13+5 ^h	13/17	30 ^g	10/13	10, 2 ft	10/13
6	0.35	0.60	NR	49	20 or 13+5 ^h	15/19	30 ^g	15/19	10, 4 ft	10/13

(3-20-14)

e. Add the following footnote to the title of Table R402.1.1 - Insulation and Fenestration Requirements by Component: ^k For residential log home building thermal envelope construction requirements see section R402.6. (3-25-16)

f. Delete the values contained in Table R402.1.3 (Table N1102.1.3) for climate zone “5 and Marine 4” and climate zone “6” and replace with the following:

TABLE R402.1.3 EQUIVALENT U-FACTORS								
Climate Zone	Fenestration U-factor	Skylight U-factor	Ceiling R-Value	Wood Frame Wall R-Value	Mass Wall R-Value	Floor R-Value	Basement Wall R-Value	Crawlspace Wall R-Value
5 and Marine 4	0.35	0.60	0.030	0.057	0.082	0.033	0.059	0.065
6	0.35	0.60	0.026	0.057	0.060	0.033	0.050	0.065

(3-20-14)

g. Delete Table R402.2.6 (Table N1102.2.6) and replace with the following:

TABLE R402.2.6 STEEL-FRAME CEILING, WALL AND FLOOR INSULATION (R-VALUE)	
Wood Frame R-value Requirement	Cold-formed Steel Equivalent R-value^a
Steel Truss Ceilings^b	
R-30	R-38 or R-30 + 3 or R-26 + 5
R-38	R-49 or R-38 + 3
R-49	R-38 + 5
Steel Joist Ceilings^b	
R-30	R-38 in 2 x 4 or 2 x 6 or 2 x 8 R-49 in any framing
R-38	R-49 in 2 x 4 or 2 x 6 or 2 x 8 or 2 x 10
Steel-Framed Wall	
R-13	R-13 + 5 or R-15 + 4 or R-21 + 3 or R-0 + 10
R-19	R-13 + 9 or R-19 + 8 or R-25 + 7
R-21	R-13 + 10 or R-19 + 9 or R-25 + 8
Steel Joist Floor	
R-13	R-19 in 2 x 6 R-19 + 6 in 2 x 8 or 2 x 10
R-19	R-19 + 6 in 2 x 6 R-19 + 12 in 2 x 8 or 2 x 10
a. Cavity insulation R-value is listed first, followed by continuous insulation R-value. b. Insulation exceeding the height of the framing shall cover the framing.	

(3-25-16)

h. Delete section R402.4.1 (N1102.4.1) and replace with the following: Building thermal envelope. The building thermal envelope shall comply with sections R402.1.1 and either section R402.4.1.2 or R402.4.1.3. The sealing methods between dissimilar materials shall allow for differential expansion and contraction. (3-25-16)

i. Delete section R402.4.1.1 (N1102.4.1.1) and replace with the following: Installation. The components of the building thermal envelope as listed in Table R402.4.1.1 shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and the criteria listed in Table R402.4.1.1, as applicable to the method of construction. (3-25-16)

j. Delete the criteria requirement for the "Fireplace" component of Table R402.4.1.1 (Table N1102.4.1.1) - Air Barrier and Insulation Installation, and replace with the following: An air barrier shall be installed on fireplace walls. (3-20-14)

k. Delete section R402.4.1.2 (N1102.4.1.2) and replace with the following: Testing option, Building envelope tightness and insulation installation shall be considered acceptable when tested air leakage is less than seven (7) air changes per hour (ACH) when tested with a blower door at a pressure of 33.5 psf (50 Pa). Testing shall occur after rough in and after installation of penetrations of the building envelope, including penetrations for utilities, plumbing, electrical, ventilation and combustion appliances. During testing: (3-25-16)

- i. Exterior windows and doors, fireplace and stove doors shall be closed, but not sealed; (3-20-14)
- ii. Dampers shall be closed, but not sealed, including exhaust, intake, makeup air, backdraft and flue dampers; (3-20-14)
- iii. Interior doors shall be open; (3-20-14)
- iv. Exterior openings for continuous ventilation systems and heat recovery ventilators shall be closed and sealed; (3-20-14)
- v. Heating and cooling system(s) shall be turned off; (3-20-14)
- vi. HVAC ducts shall not be sealed; and (3-20-14)
- vii. Supply and return registers shall not be sealed. (3-20-14)
- l. Add the following as section R402.4.1.3 (N1102.4.1.3): Visual inspection option, Building envelope tightness and insulation installation shall be considered acceptable when the items listed in Table R402.4.1.1, applicable to the method of construction, are field verified. Where required by code official an approved party independent from the installer of the insulation shall inspect the air barrier and insulation. (3-25-16)
- m. Add the following section: R402.6 (N1102.6) Residential Log Home Thermal Envelope. Residential log home construction shall comply with sections R401 (General), R402.4 (Air Leakage), R402.5 (Maximum Fenestration U-Factor and SHGC), R403.1 (Controls), R403.2.2 (Sealing), R403.2.3 (Building Cavities), sections R403.3 through R403.9 (referred to as the mandatory provisions), Section R404 (Electrical Power and Lighting Systems), and either i., ii., or iii. as follows: (3-25-16)
 - i. Sections R402.2 through R402.3, R403.2.1, R404.1 and Table R402.6; (3-25-16)
 - ii. Section R405 Simulated Performance Alternative (Performance); or (3-25-16)
 - iii. REScheck (U.S. Department of Energy Building Codes Program). (4-7-11)
- n. Add Table R402.6 (Table N1102.6) Log Home Prescriptive Thermal Envelope Requirements By Component to be used only in accordance with item i. of section R402.6 above to appear as follows:

TABLE R402.6
LOG HOME PRESCRIPTIVE THERMAL ENVELOPE REQUIREMENTS BY COMPONENT

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

Climate Zone	Fenestration U-factor ^a	Skylight U-factor	Glazed Fenestration SHGC	Ceiling R-value	Min. Average Log Size In Inches	Floor R-value	Basement Wall R-value ^d	Slab R-value & Depth ^b	Crawl Space Wall R-value ^d
5, 6 - High efficiency equipment path ^c	0.32	0.60	NR	49	5	30	15/19	10, 4 ft.	10/13
5	0.32	0.60	NR	49	8	30	10/13	10, 2 ft.	10/13
6	0.30	0.60	NR	49	8	30	15/19	10, 4 ft.	10/13

- a. The fenestration U-factor column excludes skylights. The SHGC column applies to all glazed fenestration.
- b. R-5 shall be added to the required slab edge R-values for heated slabs.
- c. 90% AFUE natural gas or propane, 84% AFUE oil, or 15 SEER heat pump heating equipment (zonal electric resistance heating equipment such as electric base board electric resistance heating equipment as the sole source for heating is considered compliant with the high efficiency equipment path).
- d. "15/19" means R-15 continuous insulated sheathing on the interior or exterior of the home or R-19 cavity insulation at the interior of the basement wall. "15/19" shall be permitted to be met with R-13 cavity insulation on the interior of the basement wall plus R-5 continuous insulated sheathing on the interior or exterior of the home. "10/13" means R-10 continuous insulated sheathing on the interior or exterior of the home or R-13 cavity insulation at the interior of the basement wall.

(3-25-16)

o. Delete section R404.1 (N1104.1) and replace with the following: Lighting equipment (Mandatory). A minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the lamps in permanently installed lighting fixtures shall be high-efficacy lamps or a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the permanently installed lighting fixtures shall contain only high efficacy lamps. (3-20-14)

05. References to Other Codes. Where any provisions of the codes that are adopted in this Section make reference to other construction and safety-related model codes or standards which have not been adopted by the involved authority having jurisdiction, to the extent possible, such reference should be construed as pertaining to the equivalent code or standard that has been duly adopted by such jurisdiction. (3-29-10)

005. OFFICE -- OFFICE HOURS -- STREET ADDRESS -- MAILING ADDRESS -- TELEPHONE, FACSIMILE AND WEB ADDRESS.
 The principal place of business of the Division of Building Safety is in Meridian, Idaho. The office is located at 1090 E. Watertower St., Meridian, Idaho and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., except Saturday, Sunday and legal holidays. The mailing address is: Division of Building Safety, 1090 E. Watertower St., Meridian, Idaho 83642. The telephone number of the office is (208) 334-3896. The facsimile number of the office is (208) 855-9399. The Department website at <http://dbs.idaho.gov>. (3-30-06)

006. PUBLIC RECORDS ACT COMPLIANCE.
 The rules contained herein have been promulgated according to the provisions of Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code and are public records. (3-30-06)