

Revisions to the Michigan Uniform Energy Code (MUEC 2003) effective October 24th, 2008

Who will be affected by changes to the code?

The code applies to new construction for detached 1 and 2 family homes, and multiple single-family dwellings. Compliance is based on the climate zone where the building is located.



What is a Climate Zone?

Michigan is broken down (by county) into three climate zones. Generally speaking, Zone 1: Southern Lower Peninsula, Zone 2: Northern Lower Peninsula, and Zone 3: Upper Peninsula. Check the Michigan Uniform Energy Code online at www.michigan.gov/bcc, “Administrative Rules and Public Acts”; “Administrative Rules”; “Code and Licensing Rules”; “Construction Code Part 10” to find out which climate zone your county falls under.

Points To Consider Regarding Home Energy Efficiency

When assessing the energy efficiency of a home, it is important to look at over-all energy performance instead of focusing on one item (such as insulation). The goal is to combine a variety of energy efficient strategies to achieve a maximum net benefit. Some things to think about:

- ❖ windows and insulation
- ❖ lighting and appliance choices
- ❖ site orientation
- ❖ landscaping
- ❖ sealing air leaks

The good news is that buying an energy efficient home comes with a number of advantages, including quality construction, lower utility costs, improved comfort and indoor air quality, and a potential for higher resale value for your home.



The Revised Michigan Uniform Energy Code

What Does it Mean for Residential Construction?



Energy Office

How do I comply with the code?

It's easier than you think! Compliance can be demonstrated by any *one* of the following:

1. Meeting the requirements of the code (*see table on the right*).
2. Meeting the requirements of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) for detached 1- and 2-family dwellings (*see website below*).
3. Meeting the design, construction and certification requirements under the ENERGY STAR® Homes Program (*a certified home energy rater can help you with this-see website below*).
4. Meeting the design and construction requirements in conformance with the national Home Energy Rating System (HERS) guidelines with an index of 85 (minus the thermal bypass checklist requirement) *A certified home energy rater can help you with this, too!*

IECC

By complying with the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), you meet the requirements of the 2003 MUEC (check FAQ site for reference to IECC).

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dleg/dleg_bcc_muec_faq_257141_7.pdf

Certified Home Energy Rater Directory

<http://www.natresnet.org/directory/raters.aspx>

Criteria Minimum Required Thermal Performance (U-Factor and R-Value)

Exterior Enclosure	Zones		
	1	2	3
Wall Assemblies	R-21	R-21	R-21
Fenestration/Opening (area weighted average of the total area of fenestration units) ¹	U =0.35 (R= 2.85)		
Roof/Ceiling Assemblies ²	R-49	R-49	R-49
Floors over unconditioned spaces	R-21	R-21	R-21
Slab on grade construction ³	R-11	R-13	R-18
Crawl space walls ⁴	R-20	R-20	R-20
Basement walls	Continuous Insulation	R-10	R-10
	Cavity Insulation	R-11	R-11
		R-15	R-19

1 Fenestration units are required to meet this standard for the entire unit.

2 Skylight U (1/R) factors are required to meet the fenestration requirements set forth in this table for fenestration/openings. Skylights are limited to 10% of the gross roof/ceiling area.

3 See section N1102.1.6 for additional installation criteria.

4 See section N1102.1.7 for additional installation criteria.



This brochure should be considered a general guide. It is not a comprehensive review of the Michigan Uniform Energy Code. You can view the revised Michigan Uniform Energy Code online at www.michigan.gov/bcc, under the link "Administrative Rules and Public Acts", click on "Administrative Rules"; "Code and Licensing Rules"; "Construction Code Part 10". A paper copy of the Code is available for \$2.50 at: MI Dept. of Labor & Economic Growth, Bureau of Construction Codes & Fire Safety, 2501 Woodlake Circle, Okemos, MI, 48864.

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