



BURGLAR ESTABLISHED 1981
& FIRE ALARM

ASSOCIATION OF **MICHIGAN**

APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Period 3
Related Training Instruction (RTI)
Module 1 – Michigan Building Code (MBC), Chapter 1

Reading material associated with this module:
Chapter 1
Michigan Building Code (MBC), 2021 Edition

Michigan Building Code (MBC), 2021 Edition

Chapter 1 – Scope and Administration

2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

Introduction:

- The Michigan Building Code (MBC), 2021 Edition became effective on April 9, 2025, and adopts the 2021 Edition of the International Code Council (ICC) Building Code with specific Michigan deletions and modifications.
- Building codes, i.e., MBC, ICC, NFPA 101 *Life Safety Code*, determine what occupancies require fire alarms, and the extent of protection required.
- Installation codes and standards, i.e., NFPA 70 *National Electrical Code*, NFPA 72 *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, and NFPA 90A *Standard for the Installation of Air-Conditioning and Ventilating Systems*, establish installation requirements such as wiring methods and materials, device placement and configuration, and documentation requirements.

2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

The following chapters from the MBC affect fire alarm systems:

Chapters:

- 1 – Scope and Administration
- 2 – Definitions
- 3 – Occupancy Classification and Use
- 4 – Special Detailed Requirements Based on Occupancy and Use
- 7 – Fire and Smoke Protection Features
- 9 – Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems
- 10 – Means of Egress
- 11 – Accessibility

2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

Chapter 1 – Part 1 Scope and Application:

- Section 102 – Applicability:
 - The codes and standards referenced in this code (Chapter 35 – Referenced Standards) shall be considered part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference and as further regulated in Sections 102.4.1 and 102.4.2.
 - Where differences occur between this code and referenced codes and standards, the provisions of this code shall apply.
 - Where the extent of the reference to a referenced code or standard includes subject matter that is within the scope of this code or the International Codes referenced in Section 101.4, the requirements of this code or the International Codes specified in Section 101.4 shall take preference over the referenced code or standard.
 - *Section 101.4 codes referenced are the ICC Fuel Gas, Mechanical, Plumbing, Property Maintenance, Fire, Energy, and Rehabilitation Codes.*

2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

Chapter 1 – Part 1 Scope and Application:

- Section 102 – Applicability:
 - The legal occupancy of any existing structure on the date of adoption of this code shall be allowed to continue without change, except as specifically provided in this code, the International Rehabilitation Code, Property Maintenance Code, or the International Fire Code or as is deemed necessary by the building official for the general safety and welfare of the occupants and the public.
 - A building or portion of a building not previously occupied or used for its intended purpose as of the date of adoption of this code, shall comply with the provisions of this code for new construction or with any current permit.

102.6, 102.6.1, 102.6.2

2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

Chapter 1 – Part 2 Administration and Enforcement:

- Section 104 – Duties and Powers of Building Official:
 - The building official has the authority to interpret the provisions of the code, in accordance with the intent and purpose of the code, and to adopt policies and procedures clarifying the application of the code. Such policies shall not have the effect of waiving requirements specifically provided for in the code.
 - Materials, equipment and devices shall be constructed or installed in accordance with approvals granted under the act or by the building official.
 - Materials that are reused shall comply with the requirements of this code for new materials. Used equipment and materials shall not be reused unless approved by the building official.

104.9, 104.9.1

2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

Chapter 1 – Part 2 Administration and Enforcement:

- Section 104 – Duties and Powers of Building Official:
 - An alternative material, design, or method of construction shall be approved where the building official finds the proposed alternative meets all of the following:
 - The alternative is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this code.
 - The alternative is, for purpose intended, not less than the equivalent of that prescribed in this code as it pertains to the following:
 - Quality.
 - Strength.
 - Effectiveness.
 - Fire Resistance.
 - Durability.
 - Safety.

2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

Chapter 1 – Part 2 Administration and Enforcement:

- Section 107 – Construction Documents:
 - Shop drawings for the fire protection system(s) shall be submitted to indicate conformance to this code, and the construction documents shall be approved prior to the start of system installation. Shop drawings shall contain all information as required by the referenced installation standards in Chapter 9.
 - Work shall be installed in accordance with the approved construction documents, and any changes made during construction that are not in compliance with the approved construction documents shall be resubmitted for approval as an amended set of construction documents.

107.2.2, 107.4

2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

Chapter 1 – Part 2 Administration and Enforcement:

- Section 111 – Certificate of Occupancy:
 - A building or structure shall not be used or occupied, and a change in the existing occupancy classification of a building or portion thereof shall not be made, until a certificate of occupancy has been issued in accordance with the act.
 - Issuance of a certificate of occupancy shall not be construed as an approval of a violation of the provisions of this code or of other ordinances of the jurisdiction.

111.1, 107.4

2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

Chapter 1 – Part 2 Administration and Enforcement:

- Appeals: An interested person may appeal a decision of the enforcing agency to the board of appeals. An application for appeal shall be based on a claim that the true intent of the code has been incorrectly interpreted, the provisions of the code do not apply, or an equal or better form of construction is proposed.
- Appeals: The decision of a local board of appeals may be appealed to the construction code commission in accordance with the act and time frames.
- Appealable items include denial of permit, or failure to issue permit within 15 business days, decisions related to the code, denial of a request for variance to the code.

2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

Chapter 1 – Part 2 Administration and Enforcement:

- Appeal time frames: A local board of appeals must hear the appeal and file its decision within 30 days after submission of appeal. Failure to act within this time frame constitutes a denial of the appeal.
- Within 10 days of a denial by a local board of appeals, the decision can be appealed to the State Construction Code Commission.

MCL 125.1514, 1516

2021 Michigan Building Code (MBC)

Chapter 1 – Part 2 Administration and Enforcement:

- The Construction Code Commission may affirm, modify or reverse a decision of a local board of appeals or the enforcing agency. A decision is binding on the applicant and affected local jurisdiction.
- An appeal to the Commission shall be decided within 30 days of receipt of appeal.
- The Construction Code Commission appeal is the final step in an administrative appeal.
- Decisions of the Construction Code Commission can only be appealed in the Ingham County Circuit Court.

MCL 125.1518

END OF PERIOD 3 – MODULE 1