

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
DIVISION OF CODES AND STANDARDS**

9342 Tech Center Drive, Suite 500, Sacramento, CA 95826  
P.O. Box 277820, Sacramento, CA 95827-7820  
(800) 952-8356 / TTY (800) 735-2929 / FAX (916) 263-3383  
[HCD Website: www.hcd.ca.gov](http://www.hcd.ca.gov)



May 12, 2020

**INFORMATION BULLETIN 2020-06 (SHL, FBH, CM, SPCM)**

**TO:** City and County Building Officials  
Factory-Built Housing Manufacturers  
Commercial Modular Manufacturers  
Special Purpose Commercial Modular Manufacturers  
HCD-Approved Third-Party Agencies Interested Parties  
Division Staff

**FROM:** Richard Weinert, Deputy Director  
Division of Codes and Standards

**SUBJECT:** **California Building Standards—Use of Appendices and Informative Annexes**

This Information Bulletin is issued to provide guidance on the use of appendices and informative annexes to the California Code of Regulations, Title 24, California Building Standards Code (CBSC).

The CBSC includes an administrative section addressing the general use of appendices (and informative annexes) which states that provisions in the appendices (or informative annexes) shall not apply unless specifically adopted by a state agency or adopted by a local jurisdiction in compliance with Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 18901 et. seq. for California Building Standards Law, HSC section 17950 for State Housing Law, and HSC section 13869.7 for fire protection districts.

The mandatory nature of appendices or informative annexes adopted by state agencies is applicable for most CBSC appendices and annexes, however, there are some exceptions. Attachment A identifies only appendices and informative annexes adopted by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for residential and accessory structures and their mandatory or voluntary application. Please note that additional appendices or annexes adopted by other state agencies (e.g., Office of the State Fire Marshal, Division of the State Architect, or Energy Commission) may also apply to residential occupancies, but may not be identified in Attachment A.

Any local city, county, or city and county adoptions of any voluntary appendices in accordance with HSC sections 17958, 17958.5, 17958.7, and 18941.5 should be filed with the California Building Standards Commission. Any fire protection district adoptions of any voluntary appendices, as ratified by the local jurisdiction (city, county, city and county), should be filed with HCD in accordance with HSC section 13869.7(c). See “Guide for Local Amendments of Building Standards”; available from the California Building Standards Commission for other types of local amendments.

Factory-built housing (FBH), as defined in HSC section 19971, is subject to the CBSC as adopted and applicable on a statewide basis. See HSC section 19993 for areas reserved for the local authority having jurisdiction applicable to FBH.

If you have any questions regarding this Information Bulletin, please contact the State Housing Law Program at (800) 952-8356.

Attachment—Attachment A

## ATTACHMENT A

### California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2

\*Voluntary appendices are available for adoption by local jurisdictions and become mandatory upon adoption by the local jurisdiction.

Appendix	Title	Mandatory Statewide	Voluntary*	Notes
I	Patio Covers	X		Applies to residential patio covers defined as a structure with open or glazed walls that is used for recreational, outdoor living purposes associated with a dwelling unit.
J	Grading	X		Applies if grading, excavation, and earthwork construction, including fills and embankments, are part of the project as permitted using this code.
O	Emergency Housing		X	Adopted by HCD as a voluntary measure. Mandatory only at the local level if adopted by a local jurisdiction. Applies to housing in a permanent or temporary structure(s), occupied during a declaration of state of emergency, local emergency, or shelter crisis.

### California Residential Code, Title 24, Part 2.5

\*Voluntary appendices are available for adoption by local jurisdictions and become mandatory upon adoption by the local jurisdiction.

Appendix	Title	Mandatory Statewide	Voluntary*	Notes
H	Patio Covers	X		Applies to residential patio covers as defined as a structure with open or glazed walls that is used for recreational, outdoor living purposes associated with a dwelling unit.
Q	Tiny Houses	X		Applies to tiny houses ( $\leq 400$ sq. ft. floor area excluding lofts) as defined in this code. Other requirements in CRC apply unless specifically provided in Appendix Q.
S	Strawbale Construction	X		Applies to residential construction using strawbales, as defined, in this code.
X	Emergency Housing		X	Adopted by HCD as a voluntary measure. Mandatory only at the local level if adopted by a local jurisdiction. Applies to housing in a permanent or temporary structure(s), occupied during a declaration of state of emergency, local emergency, or shelter crisis.

**California Electrical Code, Title 24, Part 3. There are no informative annexes adopted by HCD.**

**California Mechanical Code, Title 24, Part 4. There are no appendices adopted by HCD.**

**California Plumbing Code, Title 24, Part 5**

\*Voluntary appendices are available for adoption by local jurisdictions and become mandatory upon adoption by the local jurisdiction.

<b>Appendix</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Mandatory Statewide</b>	<b>Voluntary*</b>	<b>Notes</b>
A	Recommended Rules for Sizing the Water Supply System	X		Adopted by HCD. Provides a general procedure for sizing a water supply system.
D	Sizing Storm Water Drainage Systems	X		Adopted by HCD. Includes general guidelines for sizing of storm water drainage systems based on maximum rates of rainfall. Allows use of higher local rainfall rates.
H	Private Sewage Disposal Systems	X		Adopted by HCD. Includes general guidelines for materials, design, and installation of private sewage disposal systems. Allows local enforcing agencies to grant exceptions to Appendix requirements under specified conditions.
I	Installation Standard for PEX Tubing Systems for Hot- And Cold-Water Distribution	X		Adopted by HCD. Includes IAPMO IS 31-2014 requirements for installation of SDR 9 CTS crosslinked polyethylene (PEX) tubing and fittings, including cold-expansion, crimp, press, and mechanical compression fittings, intended for hot- and cold-water distribution systems within buildings.

**California Existing Building Code, Title 24, Part 10**

\*Voluntary appendices are available for adoption by local jurisdictions and become mandatory upon adoption by the local jurisdiction.

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Mandatory Statewide</b>	<b>Voluntary*</b>	<b>Notes</b>
A1	Seismic Strengthening Provisions for Unreinforced Masonry Bearing Wall Buildings		X	Adopted by HCD as a voluntary measure. Identifies minimum standards for structural seismic resistance and are established primarily to reduce the risk of life loss or injury.
A3	Prescriptive Provisions for Seismic Strengthening of Cripple Walls and Sill Plate Anchorage of Light, Wood-Frame Residential Buildings		X	Adopted by HCD as a voluntary measure. Identifies standards for strengthening that may be approved by the code official without requiring plans or calculations prepared by a registered design professional. Applies to residential buildings of light-frame wood construction containing one or more of specified structural weaknesses.

**California Green Building (CALGreen) Code, Title 24, Part 11**

\*Voluntary appendices are available for adoption by local jurisdictions and become mandatory upon adoption by the local jurisdiction.

Appendix	Title	Mandatory Statewide	Voluntary*	Notes
A4.1	Planning and Design		X	Adopted by HCD as a voluntary measure. Includes prerequisites for Tier 1 and Tier 2 and adoptable electives. Prerequisites and selected electives become mandatory only at the local level if adopted by a local jurisdiction.
A4.2	Energy Efficiency		X	Same as A4.1.
A4.3	Water Efficiency and Conservation		X	Same as A4.1.
A4.4	Material Conservation and Resource Efficiency		X	Same as A4.1.
A4.5	Environmental Quality		X	Same as A4.1.
A4.6	Tier 1 and Tier 2 Residential Occupancies Application Checklist		X	Adopted by HCD. Includes a listing of the required prerequisites for Tier 1 and Tier 2 and required number of electives. Section A4.6.4.2 includes the Residential Occupancies Checklist.
A4.7	Residential Model Ordinance		X	Adopted by HCD for optional use for local jurisdictions adopting voluntary CALGreen measures. Includes Sample Resolution for Adoption of the Tier 1 or Tier 2 Provisions of the California Green Building Standards Code with or without additional items necessary to address innovative concepts or local environmental conditions.