



NC DEPARTMENT OF
INSURANCE
OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL

NC CODE OFFICIALS QUALIFICATION BOARD

BUILDING CODE HISTORY

1905 - FIRST BUILDING CODE ESTABLISHED TO PROVIDE MINIMUM CONSTRUCTION AND DESIGN METHODS IN TOWNS WITH A POPULATION OVER 1,000.

1933 – CREATION OF THE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL AND CHARGED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STATE BUILDING CODE AND MAKE AMENDMENTS AS NECESSARY TO REFLECT CHANGING PRACTICES AND MATERIALS. The NC DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE PROVIDES THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL STAFF FOR THE COUNCIL

- HEAR APPEALS FROM LOCAL INSPECTORS CONCERNING CODE INTERPRETATIONS

1936 – COUNCIL PUBLISHING FIRST CODE – ONE VOLUME (TODAY'S CODE CONSISTS OF MORE THAN 10 VOLUMES)

1969 – ALL MUNICIPALITIES REQUIRED TO ENFORCE THE NC STATE BUILDING CODE.

NC CODE OFFICIALS QUALIFICATION BOARD

1977 – CREATION OF THE NC CODE OFFICIALS QUALIFICATION BOARD TO PROVIDE UNIFORM CODE ENFORCEMENT CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

ESTABLISH MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR EMPLOYMENT AND CERTIFICATION FOR CEOs

DEVELOP EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT THE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.

NC DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE PROVIDES THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL STAFF FOR THE BOARD



NC CODE OFFICIALS QUALIFICATION BOARD

APRIL, 1978 – FIRST MEETING OF THE QUALIFICATION BOARD.

1979 – CITY AND COUNTY INSPECTORS WERE REQUIRED TO BE CERTIFIED IN THE AREAS OF BUILDING, ELECTRICAL, MECHANICAL, AND PLUMBING. EACH TRADE WAS DIVIDED INTO THREE LEVELS (I, II OR III). THE LEVELS ARE ASSIGNED BASED ON EXPERIENCE, EDUCATION, LICENSURE OR A COMBINATION OF ALL THREE.

TABLE 706 IDENTIFIES THE INSPECTION LIMITS FOR EACH LEVEL BASED ON OCCUPANCY, SQUARE FOOTAGE AND STORY HEIGHT.

SECTION .0706 OUTLINES EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH LEVEL.

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1978 – 1979 – FIRST LIMITED CERTIFICATES WERE ISSUED.

LIMITED CERTIFICATES WERE GRANTED TO INDIVIDUALS WHO HELD JOBS AS CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS BASED ON A SPECIFIC DATE. THE CERTIFICATE WAS ONLY VALID IN THE ISSUING JURISDICTION AND NOT TRANSFERABLE. CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS WERE PHASED IN BASED ON THE 1970 POPULATION CENSUS. LARGER JURISDICTIONS WERE REQUIRED TO HAVE CERTIFICATE INSPECTORS FIRST. THE STAGGERED TIME PERIOD – 1979; 1981; 1983; AND 1985.

1979 – FIRST STAFF MEMBERS HIRED.

1980 – FIRST LAW AND ADMINISTRATION COURSE HELD.

1981 – FIRST STANDARD CERTIFICATE ISSUED.



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1991 – FIFTH CERTIFICATION LEVEL ADDED – FIRE PREVENTION

LIMITED FIRE CERTIFICATIONS WERE ISSUED BASED ON EMPLOYMENT AS A FIRE CODE OFFICIAL AS OF 1989.

1981 - STATE EXAMS ADMINISTERED QUARTERLY – CHARLOTTE AND RALEIGH. CHARLOTTE DROPPED IN EARLY 2000s.

2009- COMPUTER-BASED TESTING BEGINS WITH PEARSON-VUE. In 2014 THE ADMINISTRATOR BECAME PSI.

CURRENT EXAM FORMAT – 150 QUESTIONS; 4-PART MULTIPLE CHOICE; 3 ½ HOURS; OPEN BOOK. THE BOARD CURRENTLY OFFERS 15 DIFFERENT CERTIFICATES AND ADMINISTERS 15 DIFFERENT STATE EXAMS.



NC CODE OFFICIALS QUALIFICATION BOARD

CURRENT BOARD CONFIGURATION

20 MEMBER BOARD

APPOINTED FOR 4-YEAR TERMS

MULTIPLE APPOINTING AGENCIES

CURRENT STAFF:

KATHY WILLIAMS – STAFF DIRECTOR, EXAM ADMINISTRATOR

TERRI TART – CERTIFICATION TECHNICIAN

JESSICA YELVERTON – EDUCATION COORDINATOR

SAM WHITTINGTON – CERTIFICATION ENGINEER/INVESTIGATOR

VACANT - CERTIFICATION ENGINEER/INVESTIGATOR

NC CODE OFFICIALS QUALIFICATION BOARD

3 TYPES OF CERTIFICATES:

PROBATIONARY:

ISSUED TO NEW CEOs;

ISSUED TO CEOs GOING TO NEXT LEVEL;

ALLOWS CEOs TO OBTAIN TRAINING & EXPERIENCE WHILE PERFORMING
INSPECTIONS;

ONLY ISSUED TO CEOs;

NOT RENEWABLE OR EXTENDABLE;

EXPIRES IN 3 YEARS;

NC CODE OFFICIALS QUALIFICATION BOARD

3 TYPES OF CERTIFICATES:

STANDARD:

ISSUED TO QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE MET ALL EXAM REQUIREMENTS;
EMPLOYED AS CEO;
HAS STD APP ON FILE;
ISSUED FOR SPECIFIC AREA AND LEVEL;
TRANSFERABLE;
ANNUAL RENEWAL REQUIRED WITH CE CREDIT

NC CODE OFFICIALS QUALIFICATION BOARD

3 TYPES OF CERTIFICATES:

LIMITED:

FOR B, E, M & P – ISSUED IN YRS 1979, 1981, 1983, 1985;

FOR F – ISSUED IN YRS 1991-1993;

CERT AVAILABLE TO CEO WHO HELD A POSITION ON A SPECIFIC DATE.;

CEO ALLOWED 2 YRS TO COMPLETE 2 REQUIRED COURSES TO RENEW CERT.;

THE CERT HOLDS NO INSPECTION LIMITATION;

THE CERT IS LIMITED TO A SPECIFIC JURISDICTION – NOT TRANSFERABLE;

REQUIRES ANNUAL RENEWAL & CE;

NO LONGER ISSUED;

APPROX 50 LIMITED CERTS LEFT, MOSTLY FIRE

NC CODE OFFICIALS QUALIFICATION BOARD

LICENSES RECEIVING CREDIT:

THE FOLLOWING LICENSES RECEIVE CREDIT IN BOARD RULES:

PE REGISTRATION AND ARCHITECT LICENSE;

GC BD - RESIDENTIAL, LIMITED, INTERMEDIATE, UNLIMITED;

ELECTRICAL BD - LIMITED, INTERMEDIATE, UNLIMITED;

MECH, PLUMB & FIRE SPRINKLER BD:

H-1-I, H-2-I, H-3-I, P-I, FIRE SPRINKLER CONTRACTOR

NC CODE OFFICIALS QUALIFICATION BOARD

DEGREES RECEIVING CREDIT:

THE FOLLOWING DEGREES RECEIVE CREDIT IN BOARD RULES:

5-YR DEGREE IN ARCHITECTURE;

4 YR DEGREE IN CE, EE, ME, FIRE SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY
DEGREE;

4 YR NON-TECHNICAL DEGREE;

2 YR DEGREE IN CE, EE, ME, FIRE SCIENCE, FIRE PROTECTION TECH;

1 YR DIPLOMA IN CE, EE, ME, OR FIRE SCIENCE

4 YR APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM COMPLETION

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ALL LETTERS OF TECHNICAL SUPERVISION CONSIST OF 5 COMPONENTS (FOUND IN .0706(b)):

1. STATE TIME FRAME 6 MOS, 3 YRS, 4 YRS OF SUPERVISION FOR LEVEL I, II, AND III;
2. NOTARIZED;
3. STATE SUPERVISOR'S CERTS;
4. RECOMMEND CERTIFICATION OF APPLICANT FOR A LEVEL AND AREA;
5. MAX OF 2 LETTERS TO = TIME FRAME NEEDED;
6. LIST 2 PROJECTS PERFORMED UNDER SUPERVISION

NC CODE OFFICIALS QUALIFICATION BOARD

§ 143-151.14. COMITY

THE BOARD MAY, **WITHOUT REQUIRING AN EXAMINATION**, GRANT A STANDARD CERTIFICATE AS A QUALIFIED CODE-ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL FOR A PARTICULAR TYPE OF POSITION AND LEVEL TO ANY PERSON WHO, AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION, IS CERTIFIED AS A QUALIFIED CODE-ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL BY A SIMILAR BOARD OF ANOTHER STATE, DISTRICT OR TERRITORY WHERE STANDARDS ARE ACCEPTABLE TO THE BOARD AND NOT LOWER THAN THOSE REQUIRED BY THIS ARTICLE.

NC CODE OFFICIALS QUALIFICATION BOARD

CERTIFICATION PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS:

UPON EMPLOYMENT AS A CEO, HE/SHE SHOULD COMPLETE A PROBATIONARY APPLICATION. THE JURISDICTION MUST COMPLETE A FORM VERIFYING THAT THE CEO HAS THE ABILITY TO CONDUCT CODE INSPECTIONS WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTION.

THE PROBATIONARY CERTIFICATE WILL ALLOW THE CEO TO PERFORM INSPECTIONS WHILE GAINING FIELD EXPERIENCE AND TAKING REQUIRED COURSES. IT IS VALID FOR 3 YEARS.

THE CEO MUST OBTAIN A STANDARD CERTIFICATE WITHIN 3 YEARS OF THE ISSUANCE OF A PROBATIONARY CERTIFICATE WHICH REQUIRES COMPLETION OF TECHNICAL TRADE COURSE AND LAW AND ADMINISTRATION COURSE AND PASSING THE STATE EXAM.



NC CODE OFFICIALS QUALIFICATION BOARD

INVESTIGATIONS:

INFORMAL INQUIRIES:

3 CALLS REGARDING LEGISLATIVE REFORM ITEMS OUT OF +600 PHONE CALLS FOR
CALENDAR YEAR 2017;

FORMAL COMPLAINTS:

NO FORMAL COMPLAINTS REGARDING LEGISLATIVE REFORM ITEMS IN 2017.

NC CODE OFFICIALS QUALIFICATION BOARD

CURRENT CERTIFICATION DATA:

NUMBER OF JURISDICTIONS PERFORMING INSPECTIONS: +500

NUMBER OF ACTIVE CERTIFIED CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS: 3,881

NUMBER OF ACTIVE CERTIFICATES: 8,029

NUMBER OF EXAMS TAKEN IN 2017: 1,030

NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES ISSUED IN 2017: 1,735

NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN STANDARD COURSES TAKEN IN 2017: 1,881

LARGEST JURISDICTIONS:

MECKLENBURG COUNTY

GREENSBORO

RALEIGH

DURHAM

WINSTON-SALEM

