

CHAPTER 9B-70 FLORIDA BUILDING COMMISSION - BUILDING CODE TRAINING PROGRAM

9B-70.001 Building Code Core Education.

The purpose of the Building Code Training Program is to educate licensed building department personnel, contractors, and design professionals through required core curriculum courses or equivalency examination that addresses the Florida Building Code.

(1) The Core Curriculum:

(a) The Core Curriculum is comprised of the Basic Core Course that emphasizes the administrative, enforcement and procedural aspects of the Florida Building Code and updates and amendments thereto. Licensees regulated under Chapters 468, Part XII, 481, and 489, Parts I and II, F.S., shall at a minimum complete the course by June 1, 2003 or within two (2) years of initial certification or registration, whichever is later. Licensees regulated under Chapter 471, F.S., are required to complete the core course only if the licensee actively participates in designing buildings, structures, or facilities covered by the Florida Building Code.

(b) The Core Course shall be delivered by providers approved by the respective licensing standards board, or by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation, if there is no board. Licensees will receive four (4) hours of continuing education credit for each core course completed.

(c) Licensees who hold more than one certificate or registration issued by a board and licensees regulated by more than one board will be required to complete one core course one time.

(d) The core course shall be delivered through customized instructor-led training at multiple sites, Internet, or CD-ROM supported interactive multimedia training materials as provided by the appropriate licensing board in their continuing education rules.

(e) The Department of Business and Professional Regulation shall assign generic course numbers which must be used by all providers when reporting completion of the core courses by electronic means to the Department of Community Affairs.

~~(2) Equivalency examination:~~

~~(a) The equivalency examination shall include and measure the same areas of competency covered in the Basic Core course. The equivalency examination will be updated every third year to reflect the new edition of the Florida Building Code.~~

~~(b) Passing the equivalency examination shall be considered equivalent to completing the Basic Core course and the licensee will receive four (4) hours of continuing education credit.~~

~~(c) The licensee shall be required to achieve a passing status on the equivalency examination to receive four (4) hours continuing education credit.~~

~~(d) The equivalency examination shall be administered at multiple sites located throughout the state.~~

~~(e) Security measures as set forth by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation's Rule 61-11.014, F.A.C., shall be followed during the administration of the equivalency examination.~~

~~(f) If the licensee does not pass the equivalency examination, and subsequently completes a core course, the licensee shall be deemed to have met the requirements for license renewal and will receive four (4) hours of continuing education credit.~~

9B-70.002 Commission Approval and Accreditation of Advanced Building Code Training Courses.

(1) Approval of Course Accreditors. The Commission shall approve persons ~~or entities~~ to serve as accreditors of advanced training courses. Persons ~~or entities~~ desiring to be accreditors shall apply using Form FBCED 2003-001 adopted herein by reference and available from the Building Code Information System at www.floridabuilding.org. Applications shall be accompanied by an application fee of \$100.00. Applications shall be approved by the Commission if the applicant has demonstrated ~~sufficient~~ five years of Florida Building Code expertise in the field for which approval is sought, and possesses an active license issued pursuant to 471.015; 481.213; 481.311; 489, Part I or Part II; or a standard certificate issued pursuant to FS 468.609. Approval as an accreditor shall be revoked upon a finding by the Florida Building Commission the accreditor has committed misfeasance or malfeasance related to the process of accreditation; accredited courses in violation of Florida Building Commission rule(s) related to courses reflecting the building code(s), or Florida Statutes or rules; or failed to maintain the license that provided the basis for approval as an accreditor.



(Language previously approved by POC)

(2) Accreditor Review of Courses.

*Accreditors shall review instructor-led courses submitted by course developers and providers approved by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation. If an accreditor is also a course developer or provider with accredited courses, the accreditor shall not review courses submitted by the person or entity that has reviewed the accreditor's course or courses. The accreditor shall ~~to~~ determine if the course meets ~~contains~~ the following minimum criteria:

(a) Course Title/Number (Advanced shall be in the title);

c) Provider Information (Name, Address, Telephone Number, E-mail address) (no bio);

(d) Course Description (appropriate for the course); This course is designed to.....-

(e) Course/Learning Objectives;

(f) Course Time (Time allotments for course content);

(g) Course Outline/Instructional Methods....detailed description of course content in sequence of how taught and methods used to teach that content. The following instructional methods may be used, but not limited to: exercises, quizzes, discussion groups, reading assignments, projects, simulations, and presentations;

h) Code edition:

i) Course references cited in the outline:

j) Course evaluations;

k) A minimum of 50% of the actual training materials content shall be code related.

OR (Proposed Language)

**Accreditors shall review instructor-led courses submitted by ~~course developers and or~~ training providers approved by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation to determine if the course accurately presents the technical and administrative responsibilities reflected in the current edition of the Florida Building Code or Florida Statutes or rules related to the Florida Building Code. If an accreditor is also a ~~course developer or~~ provider approved by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation with accredited courses, the accreditor shall provide a list of all such course ~~on request, a copy of the review conducted to determine the accuracy of the course to the commission. I added this to the reasons.~~ The

accreditor shall to determine if the course and materials submitted ~~meets~~ contains the following minimum criteria:

(a) Course Title/Number (Advance shall be in the title); ~~Goals and measurable objectives;~~

(b) Hours of Credit; ~~Topical outline of the course components in order of presentation~~

(c) Provider Information (Name, Address, Telephone Number, E-mail address); ~~Teaching methods can include one or more, but not limited to: exercises, quizzes, discussion groups, reading assignments, projects, simulations, and presentations; and~~

(d) Course Description (appropriate to the course); ~~Teaching resources and course references cited in the course materials.~~

(e) Code edition;

(f) Course/Learning Objectives; ~~Course materials accurately reflect the Florida Building Code and other topics under the jurisdiction of the Florida Building Code~~

(g) Course Timeline (Time allotments for course content);

(h) Course Outline/Instructional Methods; A detailed description of the course content in the sequence of how taught. and methods used to teach that content. The following Instructional methods may be used, but are not limited to: exercises, quizzes, discussion groups, reading assignments, projects, simulations, and presentations; ~~Code~~ Course references with any amendments shall be cited in the outline.

(i) Instructional Methods; methods used to teach that content. The following Instructional methods may be used, but are not limited to: case studies, computer/internet, handout materials, lecture, multimedia, panel discussion, exercises, quizzes, discussion groups, reading assignments, projects, simulations, and presentations;

~~(h) Code edition;~~

~~(i) Course references cited in the outline;~~

(j) Method of Course Evaluations;

(k) A minimum of 50% of the actual training materials content shall be code related or Florida Statutes or rules related to the Florida Building Code.

(l) Course materials shall accurately present the technical and administrative responsibilities reflected in the current edition of the Florida Building Code Edition or Florida Statutes or rules



related to the Florida Building Code. and other topics under the jurisdiction of the Florida Building Commission.

(m) The course materials provided to the student shall be provided to the Accreditor and in the same format that is presented to the student. Course materials for alternative formats other than an instructor led course shall include notes and additional materials sufficient to provide for the substitution of a live instructor.

(3) Course Accreditation by the Florida Building Commission. Accredited Courses are to effectively and accurately address the technical and administrative responsibilities in the effective execution of the current edition of the Florida Building Code or Florida Statutes or rules related to the Florida Building Code. In the event the Commission identifies areas or topics of advanced Building Code education with an insufficient number of courses available through existing resources, the Commission shall report the areas or topics to the appropriate licensing board. If additional courses do not become available within six months of notification to the licensing board, upon a finding that the absence of course work in the identified subject area is detrimental to the effective administration and enforcement of the Florida Building Code, and funds are available in the Commission's budget for course development, the Commission will develop a minimum of one (1) course that will be made available to training providers.

(a) ~~Training~~ providers approved by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation who desire Commission approval and accreditation for advanced Building Code courses shall register with the Building Code Information System Form FBCED 2003-002, Training Provider Registration, adopted herein by reference and available from the Building Code Information System at www.floridabuilding.org, and pay a registration fee of \$25.00.

(b) Registered training providers shall submit materials and information pertaining to courses for which Commission accreditation and approval is sought utilizing Form FBCED 2003-003, Course Accreditation Application, adopted herein by reference and available from the Building Code Information System at www.floridabuilding.org.

(c) The provider shall select an approved accreditor and shall provide payment for services directly to the accreditor. The accreditor selected shall meet the criteria for independence identified in paragraph (d) and shall be listed with expertise in the field for which approval is sought.

(d) Upon submittal by a training provider, the selected accreditor shall receive an e-mail notification from the Building Code Information System at www.floridabuilding.org and shall review the materials provided by the provider in accordance with the criteria identified herein.

The accreditor shall complete the application by providing comments containing the results of the accreditor's review and updating the Accreditation Approval Status on the Building Code Information System. The accreditor shall also provide a certification of independence that attests the person or entity does not have, nor does it intend to acquire or will acquire, a financial interest in the training provider seeking accreditation.

(e) The Building Code Information System shall assign an accreditation number to the application upon submittal ~~and the application shall be scheduled for review by the Florida Building Commission~~. The application shall be ~~reviewed~~ accredited completely and placed in the "Pending FBC Action" file on the Building Code Information System at www.floridabuilding.org no later than 23 14 calendar days prior to the next ~~and action taken on the accreditation and approval of the materials at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Florida Building Commission which occurs more than 30 days from the date the accreditation number is assigned~~. The Commission shall finalize the accreditation process utilizing the BCIS system and notify the provider and accreditor within 72 hours of Florida Building Commission action on the applications.

(f) Providers shall have 60 calendar days from the effective date of the code adoption to submit their courses for reaccreditation update ~~existing accredited courses that are affected by the code changes or provide a letter to the commission certifying that the course is unaffected by the code changes and the course status should remain active. Existing courses may continue to be delivered during the 60 calendar day period. The code version that initiated the update and reaccreditation process must be noted on the application.~~

(g) Accreditation of revisions to accredited courses and courses in alternative formats to approved accredited courses shall be accomplished in the same manner as described in paragraphs (a) through (d) (f) hereof, except that only the revision submitted shall be subject to review and these courses will be approved administratively.

(h) The Commission shall audit a minimum of 2% of all courses submitted for accreditation and all courses submitted for re-accreditation. Any courses submitted for accreditation, or re-accreditation found to not accurately reflect the Florida Building Code Edition in effect or Florida Statutes or rules related to the Florida Building Code shall be denied. All approved Advanced Building Code Courses must reflect the Florida Building Code or Florida Statutes or rules related to the Florida Building Code. Any courses accredited and found by audit or any means to inaccurately reflect the Florida Building Code Edition in effect or Florida Statutes or rules related to the Florida Building Code or accredited by an accreditor outside of their areas of expertise and approval shall have the accreditation revoked, the status of the course

communicated to the respective licensing board, and the provider required to file a new application for accreditation, if the course could comply.

