

# CCLD REVIEW

Construction Codes and Licensing Division • Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry • Fall 2025

## 2026 Minnesota State Building Code adoption update

Most [Technical Advisory Groups \(TAGs\)](#) have concluded their work, provided final reports to the Construction Codes Advisory Council and the council has made recommendations to the commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry for approval to proceed with rulemaking.

Advisory groups that have some work to complete include the Residential Energy Code TAG and the Commercial Energy Code TAG.

It is anticipated that the 2026 Minnesota State Building Code will become effective in the third quarter of 2026, however, some code sections may be delayed due to extended TAG meetings or other statutory requirements.

Follow along with the work of the advisory groups at [dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils/technical-advisory-groups-tags](https://dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils/technical-advisory-groups-tags).

## New round of Building Official Training Grants to open soon

The Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry will again offer one-year [Building Official Training Municipal Grants](#).

Applications will be accepted from qualifying municipalities for 10 grants of \$75,000. A request for proposals is expected to publish in late September opening the 30-day application period. Notification will be sent via email to building officials and building official organizations and published in the State Register when the request for proposals is available.

Each grant is intended to provide partial funding and guidance, through training requirements, to qualified municipalities to establish or continue to provide a training program in their municipality to train one full-time employee of the jurisdiction's building code department on the path to becoming a Minnesota-certified building official.

Priority will be given to municipalities outside of the state's metropolitan areas, but it is anticipated there will also be grants available for municipalities within the metropolitan area.



### Questions?

Contact us at [bot.dli@state.mn.us](mailto:bot.dli@state.mn.us).

# Contractor registration renewals are due by Dec. 31, 2025

Unlicensed contractors who perform construction work in Minnesota may be required to register with DLI. **This construction contractor registration is separate from a professional license** and is primarily used to help DLI enforce laws related to worker misclassification in the construction industry.

Registrations must be renewed every two years and the current renewal deadline is Dec. 31, 2025. If you work with or hire subcontractors, now is a good time to ensure they are properly registered.

Not sure if you or someone you work with needs to be registered? Learn more about [registration requirements and recent updates](#) to Minnesota’s Construction Employee Misclassification Law.

### Questions?

Contact Elizabeth Harms at [dli.register@state.mn.us](mailto:dli.register@state.mn.us) or 651-284-5074.

## Schedule of board and council meetings

Below is a schedule of meetings for boards and council supported by CCLD.

Visit [dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils](http://dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils) to view meeting minutes, agendas, rulemaking documents and schedules for these meetings and additional boards and councils.

### Board of Electricity

- Oct. 14, 2025

### Construction Codes Advisory Council

- TBD

### Board of High Pressure Piping

- TBD

### Plumbing Board

- Oct. 21, 2025

### Interested in serving on a board or council?

Minnesotans are encouraged to apply for positions on state councils, boards, task forces and commissions through the Secretary of State’s Open Commissions and Appointments process.

Visit [dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils](http://dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils) for more information about how to apply.

CCLD Review is a quarterly publication of the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry.

Receive email notification when an issue is available by [subscribing online](#).

### Contact information

#### CCLD main contact info

Phone: 651-284-5012  
Toll-free: 1-800-657-3944

Visit the [Contact Us](#) page.

#### Licensing information

**Business/contractor licenses and bonds and personal licenses and certificates**  
Phone: 651-284-5034  
[DLI.License@state.mn.us](mailto:DLI.License@state.mn.us)

#### iMS support

Phone: 651-284-5026  
[iMS.support.dli@state.mn.us](mailto:iMS.support.dli@state.mn.us)

#### Electrical information

Phone: 651-284-5026  
[DLI.Electricity@state.mn.us](mailto:DLI.Electricity@state.mn.us)

#### Boiler, high-pressure piping, boats-for-hire inspection

Phone: 651-284-5544  
[DLI.Code@state.mn.us](mailto:DLI.Code@state.mn.us)

#### Plumbing information

Phone: 651-284-5063  
[iMS.bld.plb.dli@state.mn.us](mailto:iMS.bld.plb.dli@state.mn.us)

#### Building information

Phone: 651-284-5857  
[iMS.bld.plb.dli@state.mn.us](mailto:iMS.bld.plb.dli@state.mn.us)

#### License enforcement details

Phone: 651-284-5069  
[DLI.Contractors@state.mn.us](mailto:DLI.Contractors@state.mn.us)

#### Contractor registration

Phone: 651-284-5074  
[DLI.register@state.mn.us](mailto:DLI.register@state.mn.us)

# Council appoints working groups to review manufactured home requirements and the International Fire Code

At its July 2025 meeting, the Construction Codes Advisory Council appointed members to two Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs). The Manufactured Homes TAG is reviewing the Notice of Compliance requirements found in Minnesota Statutes, section 327.32, subd. 1a, for the leasing of manufactured homes and used manufactured home sales to provide input on potential legislation.

## Minnesota State Fire Code

A Fire Code TAG is reviewing the 2024 edition of the International Fire Code (IFC) for adoption with amendments as the new Minnesota State Fire Code. The TAG will review IFC requirements that are not reviewed for compatibility with the International Building Code, such as retroactive requirements for existing buildings, energy systems and food trucks.

View more information about TAGs and meetings at [dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils/technical-advisory-groups-tags](https://dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils/technical-advisory-groups-tags).



## DLI requesting rules to improve delegation availability, transparency

DLI staff will request that the Construction Codes Advisory Council convene a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) in November to develop rules for the agency to delegate plan review and inspections for public buildings and state licensed facilities.

The intent of the rules is to make the delegations process more transparent and delegations themselves more readily accessible to municipalities.

Staff would like to do so by creating levels of qualification for individuals rather than the all-or-nothing system currently implied in statute. The goal is to qualify more individuals for different types state project work allowing more municipalities to participate in the administration of code compliance for public buildings and state licensed facilities.

The TAG will also discuss the integration of current delegations and currently qualified persons into the new rules.

## Agencies partner to streamline plumbing inspections of wells

DLI and the Drinking Water Protection Division from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) will finalize a delegation agreement so that licensed well contractors will have plumbing piping associated with their well installations reviewed and inspected by MDH without needing to also obtain plan review approval and plumbing permits from DLI.

Work covered by the delegation agreement includes the water supply piping from well head to the first valve past the pressure tank and within three feet of the building entry location. The delegation agreement is effective Jan. 1, 2026.

**Looking for a phone number or email address?**

Visit [dli.mn.gov/about-department/our-areas-service](https://dli.mn.gov/about-department/our-areas-service) for contact information.

## Bloomington contractor fined \$14,500 for unlicensed work

A Bloomington contractor was found to have engaged in unlicensed residential building construction work. The contractor was ordered to cease and desist from the unlicensed activities and fined \$14,500.

A licensed West St. Paul residential building contractor was found to have allowed an unlicensed person to use its license number for the purpose of fraudulently obtaining building permits. DLI revoked the contractor's license and ordered it to cease and desist from acting or holding itself out as a residential building contractor in Minnesota.

A Menahga contractor was found to have performed plumbing work without the required contractor license. The contractor was ordered to cease and desist from the unlicensed activities and fined \$5,000, of which \$4,000 was stayed contingent on full future compliance.

An Elk River contractor was found to have engaged in residential building construction, electrical and plumbing work without having the required licenses. The contractor was ordered to cease and desist from the unlicensed activities and fined \$5,000, of which \$4,000 was stayed contingent on full future compliance.

A Columbia Heights contractor was found to have engaged in residential remodeling, electrical and plumbing work without being licensed. The contractor was ordered to cease and desist from the unlicensed activities and fined \$7,000, of which \$5,500 was stayed contingent on full future compliance.

### More information

View summaries of enforcement actions at [dli.mn.gov/workers/homeowners/file-complaint-and-view-enforcement-actions](https://dli.mn.gov/workers/homeowners/file-complaint-and-view-enforcement-actions). Contact us at 651-284-5069 or [dli.contractor@state.mn.us](mailto:dli.contractor@state.mn.us).



Enforcement actions

## New requirements for zero estimated exposure and wrap-up policies effective Jan. 1, 2026

The Minnesota Legislature recently adopted new requirements related to zero estimated exposure and wrap-up policies for workers' compensation coverage for any employer providing building construction or improvement services. The changes include new requirements that will go into effect Jan 1, 2026, related to use of these policies.

The following information includes key points that any employer performing building construction or improvement services should know about these new laws. For more information, refer to the [law at 2025 Minnesota Session Laws, Chapter 27 – H.F. 3228](#).

'Policy' continues on Page 5



### Elections are coming soon ... are you registered to vote in Minnesota?

You can check to see if you are registered to vote in Minnesota at [mnvotes.sos.mn.gov/voterstatuscheck/index](https://mnvotes.sos.mn.gov/voterstatuscheck/index). You can register to vote at [sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote](https://sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote).



**What is a zero estimated exposure policy?**

A zero estimated exposure policy, also known as an “if-any policy,” is a workers’ compensation policy obtained to cover the employer’s liability to pay workers’ compensation after reporting the employer’s total estimated exposure is zero.

**If I am an employer applying for a zero estimated payroll exposure policy, do I need to do anything?**

If you are applying for a zero estimated exposure policy, you will be asked to attest that you have no employees or estimated payroll and that you will notify your carrier if you start having payroll expenses or hire employees.

If you purchase a zero estimated exposure policy, you are also required to disclose the existence of that policy in writing to anyone to which you directly contract with to provide or perform building construction or improvement services and also provide a copy of that policy.

These changes will go into effect starting on or after Jan. 1, 2026.

**I have a zero estimated payroll exposure policy. What am I required to do?**

Beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2026, if you purchase a zero estimated exposure policy, you are required to notify in writing anyone to which you directly contract with to provide or perform building construction or improvement services that you have a zero estimated payroll exposure policy. You must also provide a copy of that policy to any entity you are directly contracting with to perform construction services.

**How can I verify if my employer or if the person/entity I’ve contracted with has a zero estimated exposure policy?**

Once the new law goes into effect, results from the workers’ compensation insurance lookup tool will show if an employer has a workers’ compensation policy with zero estimated payroll.

**I contracted with someone who will be providing or performing building construction or improvement services and received notice in writing that they have a zero estimated exposure policy. What must I do?**

In addition to written disclosure of the use of a zero estimated exposure policy, you should have received a copy of the policy itself. You are required to maintain that notice and copy of the policy for three years from the date they were received.

**There is a notice on a jobsite that workers’ compensation insurance is through a wrap-up policy. What does that mean?**

Certain large construction projects may be eligible for a project sponsor or general contractor to obtain a series of workers’ compensation policies to cover workers’ compensation liability for the employees of multiple contractors and subcontractors working on the project. If you are injured on that jobsite, your workers’ compensation may come from the wrap-up policy instead of a policy your employer has independent of the project. A wrap-up policy may also be known as a contractor-controlled or owner-controlled insurance program.

Starting Jan. 1, 2026, a project sponsor or general contractor may apply for approval of an owner- or contractor-controlled insurance program if the project meets certain criteria with regard to aggregate value, scope, and amount of workers’ compensation premium provided that the participating sponsor, contractors and subcontractors meet additional criteria and the rates for the insurance in the program met approval by the commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Commerce. The specific criteria are found in Minnesota Statutes, section 79.102.

**If a project is subject to a wrap-up policy, is any notice required?**

The project sponsor or general contractor is required to provide all contractors and subcontractors with a copy of the policy that covers their employees and must also post notice at all job sites in English and Spanish that includes how to submit a claim for compensation.