

# Code Change Training

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## Overview

Code Change training is mandatory for all building and fire code enforcement personnel holding one or more Virginia Board of Housing and Community Development issued certifications. This training is offered in conjunction with the code adoption cycle and is available in the classroom or online. Certificate holders can utilize either or both delivery formats based on their individual needs. Training requirements are based on each certificate and are detailed on the Code Change Training Matrix.

## Training Delivery

DHCD offers the training in the classroom and online programs. The classroom venue is provided by the Jack A. Proctor Virginia Building Code Academy (JPVBCA) on a limited schedule and held in various locations across the commonwealth. Programs are bundled by content (i.e. trades, building, administrative and related or miscellaneous standards and codes). This minimizes the time attendees spend out of the office. In addition to the JPVBCA schedule, the organizations, regions and the two local code academy classrooms may offer additional opportunities. Benefits of the classroom training include live interaction with the instructor, networking with other attendees and immediate question and answer sessions.

In addition to the classroom, individuals may take advantage of online training provided through the Jack A Proctor Virginia Building Code Academy Knowledge Center (VBCA-KC). Unlike the classroom sessions, the online programs are available throughout the entire code cycle. Based on the DHCD classroom curriculum, the online trainings are offered as standalone presentations. With standalone offerings, the certificate holder can complete just the sessions required for their specific certifications. Individuals looking for flexibility in when and where they attend code change training, as well as desiring a self-paced program, will find this delivery method convenient yet still comprehensive.

## Training Providers

Although DHCD is the primary provider of code change training, the organizations, regions and the DHCD-accredited local code academies may deliver the approved training for DHCD credit. The Training Provider session is instructed by VBCA approved instructors utilizing JPVBCA

curriculum. All attendance data is reflected on the JPVBCA online registration system. For information regarding Training Provider schedules, interested persons should contact the provider directly.

The online training is available through VBCA Knowledge Center. After establishing a profile, users can access all code change training sessions at their convenience. Sessions run based on content, from 15 minutes to three hours. All sessions can be stopped or paused at will and resumed as needed. Proof of completion is available through the user profile, and all completed programs are reflected in the VBCA online registration system.

### **Training schedule**

The VBCA classroom schedule is released in advanced of the code adoption effective date allowing code enforcement personnel to complete the mandated training in preparation for the effective date. Classroom trainings are held in the primary areas of the state as multiday events. The schedule and registration for the classroom training is available through the VBCA online registration system.

The online training is available following the release of the classroom training. Once released, the online training is available 24 hours a day, seven days week.

Information regarding both classroom and online training is posted on regularly on this website, VBCA online registration system, the Code Connection Blog and through the various organizations' websites.

### **Other State Agency approvals**

As with DHCD, other certifying or licensing entities require continuing education or code update training. In cooperation with the Department of Professional Occupational Regulation (DPOR) and with the Department of Fire Programs (VDFP), DHCD receives continuing education credit for our code change training towards journey or master license and 1031 certification respectively.

DHCD is an approved DPOR provider of continuing education. DHCD makes available appropriate sign-in sheets to collect data required for DPOR credit towards a certificate holder's

journeyman or master license in the trades (plumbing, electrical, HVAC and fuel gas). All data is forwarded to DPOR for credit, and license holders should contact DPOR with questions regarding license renewal.

Fire Programs provides a school number for 1031 credit. Appropriate forms are provided during the approved programs and submission of those forms is handled by DHCD. All questions regarding VDFP credit should be directed to VDFP.

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## Resources

- [2012 Code Change Matrix](#)

## Links

- [Code Connection Blog](#)
- [VBCA Knowledge Center](#)
- [VBCA Online Registration System](#)