

## Importance of Plumbing Codes

Plumbing codes and laws ensure the delivery of a safe supply of potable water and the proper disposal of sanitary waste.

There are many advantages to a quality plumbing code. A quality plumbing code:

- protects the health and well-being of the general public
- provides for a higher level of living comfort
- saves on long-term economic costs, including healthcare
- provides consumer protection and an avenue for legal recourse
- provides quality plumbing products
- enforces licensing and other related laws
- develops technical standards for the plumbing industry



## The Value of the Illinois Plumbing Code and Illinois Plumbing License Law

[www.plumbingcoalition.org](http://www.plumbingcoalition.org)  
800-795-7422

“The Coalition believes the Illinois Plumbing Code and Illinois Plumbing License Law are among the best in the nation. They have been extremely successful at maintaining the health and safety of the residents of Illinois. The Coalition supports the continued existence of the Illinois Plumbing Code and Illinois Plumbing License Law.”

—Bev A. Potts, Executive Director,  
Plumbing Coalition for Public Health and Safety

**For more information on the Illinois Plumbing Code and the Illinois Plumbing License Law, please visit [www.plumbingcoalition.org](http://www.plumbingcoalition.org)**

## The Plumbing Coalition for Public Health and Safety...

Is a statewide organization of concerned Illinois residents, plumbing associations and other plumbing professionals.

The Coalition wants to make sure that legislators in Illinois and the public are aware of the current Illinois Plumbing Code and Illinois Plumbing License Law.

## Task Force on a Uniform Building Code

The Illinois House of Representatives has formed the Task Force on a Uniform Building Code to examine and make recommendations pertaining to the adoption of a uniform building code for the state of Illinois. The task force will summarize its findings to the Illinois General Assembly and the governor by Jan. 31, 2005.

“The Plumbing Coalition for Public Health and Safety believes that it is vital, regardless of the overall recommendations of the task force, that the Illinois Plumbing Code remain intact. Our code is stringent, our standards high, and our water safe.”

—Bev A. Potts, Executive Director,  
Plumbing Coalition for Public Health and Safety

## The Illinois Plumbing Code

The Illinois Plumbing Code is a periodically updated document, which prescribes how plumbing is to be designed, installed and maintained in the state of Illinois. The Illinois Plumbing Code is a strong code that has protected the public's health and safety very well for decades.

The Illinois Plumbing Code:

- is established and modified by the Illinois Department of Public Health
- responds quickly to tested and approved plumbing technologies
- sets minimum standards that can be amended by local governments
- provides guidelines for enforcement and consumer recourse
- is a prescriptive code, which furnishes both specific requirements and the prescribed methods for reaching those requirements
- has adapted to the many geographic and climatic regions of Illinois

## The Illinois Plumbing License Law

The Illinois Plumbing License Law establishes the rules for training, testing and licensing of plumbers and apprentice plumbers. Licensing of plumbers helps ensure these individuals are knowledgeable and skilled and will build, install and maintain plumbing in a manner that complies with the code.

The Illinois Plumbing License Law:

- governs the training and licensing of plumbers and apprentice plumbers
- sets requirements for those becoming apprentices
- requires applicants taking the Illinois State Plumbing Exam to have served at least four years, but not more than six, as a licensed apprentice plumber
- requires apprentices to pass the written, hands-on and blueprint/drawing exams
- requires a minimum of four hours of annual continuing education

