

### Pennsylvania Housing Research Center

- The Pennsylvania Housing Research Center (PHRC) provides and facilitates education, training, innovation, research, and dissemination to the residential construction industry for the purpose of improving the quality and affordability of housing.
- Educational programs and publications by the PHRC address a wide range of topics relevant to the home building industry and are designed to reach a diverse audience: builders, code officials, remodelers, architects, developers, engineers, planners, landscape architects, local government officials, educators, etc. to provide professional development and continuing education

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### **Program Description**

This webinar will explore the latest updates in the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code (UCC) specifically concerning continuous exterior insulation. You'll learn about the key changes, compliance strategies, and best practices to optimize energy efficiency and meet the new energy standards. Whether you're a contractor, architect, or building professional, this webinar will provide essential insights to keep your projects up-to-date and in compliance with the new requirements.

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## Learning Objectives

1. Understand UCC Code Changes for Pennsylvania.

3. Gain insights into the best practices for installing continuous insulation.

4. How does continuous insulation enhance energy efficiencies in a home.

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### Fundamental Questions

- What is the PA UCC?
- What is changing?
- When is it changing?
- Where do I go for more information?

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### What Is the PA UCC?

- What is the PA Uniform Construction Code? - Pennsylvania's statewide building code
- How does the PA UCC relate to ICC codes?
  - The PA UCC Administration and Enforcement regulation adopts ICC codes on a triennial basis, per Act 36 of 2017.
     The previous adoption of the 2018 codes, with amendments, took effect on February 14, 2022.



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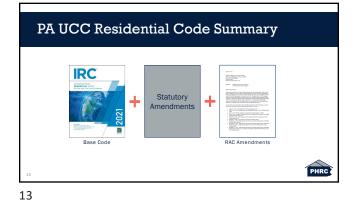
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# What Is the PA UCC? (Cont.) • Are the ICC codes adopted word-for-word, or are amendments allowed? • Two types of amendments will impact enforceable codes: 1. Statutory amendments 2. Amendments by the PA UCC Review & Advisory Council (RAC) # 11

 New "Base" Code

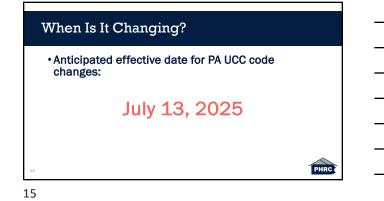
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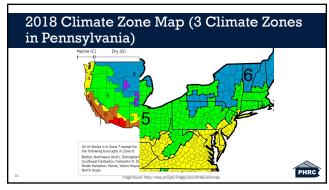
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## When Is It Changing? • Phase-in period • Where a design or construction contract was signed before the effective date [7/13/25] of regulations for a subsequent Uniform Construction Code or International Fuel Gas Code issued under this act, the permit may be issued under the Uniform Construction Code or International Fuel Gas Code in effect at the time the design or construction contract was signed before the effective date for within six months of the effective date of the regulation [1/12/26] or the period specified by a municipal ordinance, whichever is less.

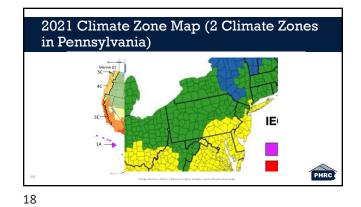
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			INSULATIO		e N1102.1.2 (R40 RATION REQUIRI		APONENT '			
Climate Zone	Fenestration U-Factor	SKYLIGHT <sup>a</sup> U-FACTOR	GLAZED FENESTRATIO N SHGC <sup>b, #</sup>	CEILING R- VALUE	WOOD FRAME WALL R-VALUE		FLOOR R- VALUE	BASEMENT <sup>6</sup> WALL R-VALUE	SLAB <sup>d</sup> R- VALUE & DEPTH	CRAWL SPACE WALL R-VALU
1	NR	0.75	0.25	30	13	3/4	13	0	0	0
2	0.40	0.65	0.25	38	13	4/6	13	0	0	0
3	0.35	0.55	0.25	38	20 or 13 + 5 <sup>h</sup>	8/13	19	5/13 <sup>f</sup>	0	5/13
4 except Marine	0.32	0.55	0.40	49	20 or 13 + 5 <sup>h</sup>	8/13	19	10/13	10, 2 ft	10/13
5 and Marine 4	0.30	0.55	NR	49	20 or 13 + 5 <sup>h</sup>	13/17	304	15/19	10, 2 ft	15/19
6	0.30	0.55	NR	49	20 + 5 <sup>h</sup> or 13 + 10 <sup>h</sup>	15/20	304	15/19	10, 4 ft	15/19
7 and 8	0.30	0.55	NR	49	20 + 5 <sup>h</sup> or 13 + 10 <sup>h</sup>	19/21	384	15/19	10, 4 ft	15/19



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CLIMATE	FENESTRATION U-FACTOR <sup>b</sup>	SKYLIGHT <sup>®</sup> U-FACTOR	GLAZED FENESTRATION SHGC <sup>b,e</sup>	CEILING R-FACTOR	WOOD FRAME WALL R-VALUE	MASS WALL R-VALUE	FLOOR R-VALUE	BASEMENT <sup>C</sup> WALL R-VALUE	SLAB <sup>d</sup> R-VALUE & DEPTH	CRAV SPAC WAL R-VAL
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2	0.40	0.65	0.25	38	13	4/6	13	0	0	0
3	0.32	0.55	0.25	38	20 or 13 + 5 <sup>h</sup>	8/13	19	5/13	0	5/13
4 except Marine	0.32	0.55	0.40	49	20 or 13 + 5 <sup>h</sup>	8/13	19	10/13	10, 2ft	10/1
		0.55	NR	49	23 or 13 + 7.5 <sup>h</sup> or 20 + 3.8 <sup>h</sup>	13/17	30 <sup>6</sup>	15/19	10, 4ft or 15, 3ft	15/1
5 and Marine 4	0.30									-
5 and Marine 4	0.30	0.55	NR	49	20 + 5° or 13 + 10 <sup>h</sup>	15/20	30 <sup>4</sup>	15/19	10, 4 ft	15/1

### What is CEI ?

Continuous Exterior Insulation (CI) is a layer of thermal insulation installed on the exterior side of a building's wall assembly, without any gaps or breaks (i.e., it's continuous across all structural members like studs and headers).

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### **Key Characteristics**

- Installed on the outside of the building's structural frame.
- Covers studs, headers, sills, and other thermal bridges.
- Usually placed between the sheathing and cladding, or sometimes directly over framing.
- Helps eliminate thermal bridging (where heat escapes through framing elements that aren't insulated).

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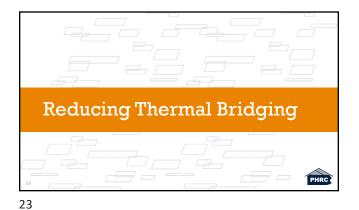
### **Benefits of CEI**

- Reduces thermal bridging, better energy performance
- Improves envelope performance, making a more comfortable home.
- Moisture/Vapor management, condensation mitigation.

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Material with lower R-Value allowing heat to pass through assembly with much higher overall R-

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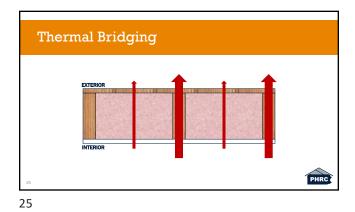
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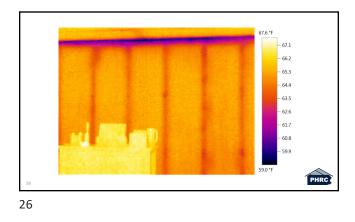
Thermal Bridging

• Example: Wood stud wall - Insulation (cavity) = R-21 - 2x6 stud ~ R-6.88



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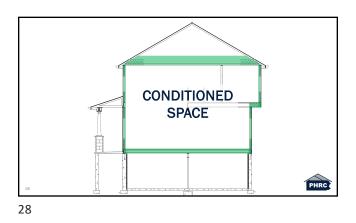






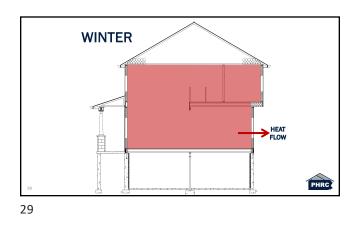




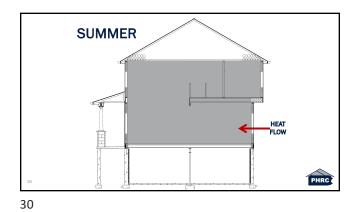




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### **Managing Heat**

• When a thermal gradient is present, heat flow cannot be stopped, but can be managed by installing thermal insulation

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Heat will always flow through path of least resistance

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### Light-Frame Thermal Bridging

- Wood studs serve as primary thermal bridge in low-rise light-frame construction
- Others: Slab edge, fenestration, mechanical penetrations, etc.
   Framing factor defines the proportion of framing in an insulated wall system (includes studs, jacks, kings, headers, top / bottom plates)
   Typical framing factor = 25%

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### How Do We Manage Thermal Bridging?

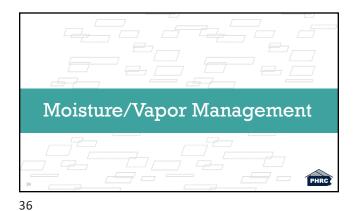
### 1. Provide a thermal break

- Thermal Break Definition: An element of low conductivity placed between two conductive materials to limit heat flow
- Exterior foam insulation

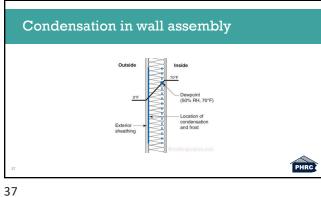
### 2. Reduce the number of thermal bridge elements

Advanced framing techniques
Reducing the framing factor to 20% or lower

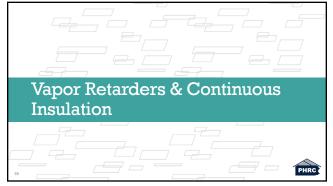














### 2021 IRC R702.7 – Vapor Retarders

Vapor retarder materials shall be classified in accordance with Table R702.7(1). A vapor retarder shall be provided on the interior side of frame walls of the class indicated in Table R702.7(2), including compliance with Table R702.7(3) or R702.7(4) where applicable. An approved design using accepted engineering practice for hygrothermal analysis shall be permitted as an alternative. The climate zone shall be determined in accordance with Section N1101.7.

Exception:

 Basement walls
 Below-grade portions of any wall
 Construction where accumulation, condensation or freezing of moisture will not damage the materials.
 A vapor retarder shall not be required in Climate Zones 1, 2 and 3.

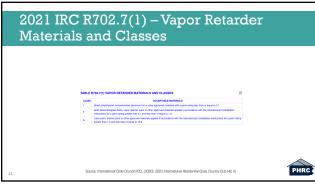
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Source: International Code Council (ICC). (2020). 2021 International Residential Code, Country Club Hill, III.

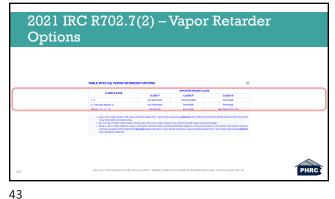
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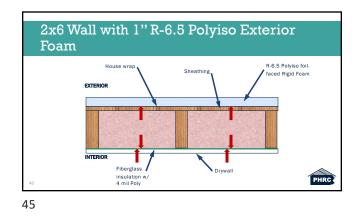


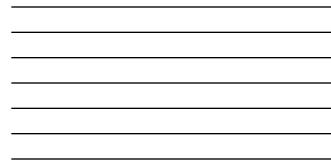
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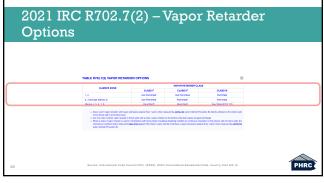


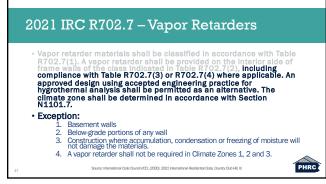
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TABLE R402.1.3 (N1102.1.3) INSULATION MINIMUM R-VALUES AND FENESTRATION REQUIREMENTS BY COMPONENT*													
CLIMATE ZONE	FENESTRATION U-FACTOR <sup>b</sup>	SKYLIGHT <sup>b</sup> U-FACTOR	GLAZED FENESTRATION SHGC <sup>b,e</sup>	CEILING R-FACTOR	WOOD FRAME WALL R-VALUE	MASS WALL R-VALUE	FLOOR R-VALUE	BASEMENT <sup>C</sup> WALL R-VALUE	SLAB <sup>d</sup> R-VALUE & DEPTH	CRAWI SPACE WALL R-VALU			
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3	0.32	0.55	0.25	38	20 or 13 + 5 <sup>h</sup>	8/13	19	5/13	0	5/13			
4 except Marine	0.32	0.55	0.40	49	20 or 13 + 5 <sup>h</sup>	8/13	19	10/13	10, 2ft	10/13			
5 and Marine 4	0.30	0.55	NR	49	23 or 13 + 7.5 <sup>h</sup> or 20 + 3.8 <sup>h</sup>	13/17	30 <sup>6</sup>	15/19	10, 4ft or 15, 3ft	15/19			
6	0.30	0.55	NR	49	20 + 5° or 13 + 10 <sup>8</sup>	15/20	30 <sup>4</sup>	15/19	10, 4 ft	15/19			
7 and 8	0.30	0.55	NR	49	20 + 5 <sup>h</sup> or 13 + 10 <sup>h</sup>	19/21	38	15/19	10, 4 ft	15/19			

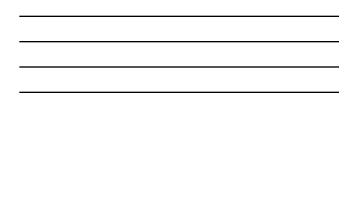


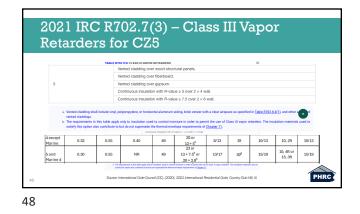




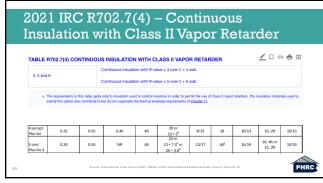


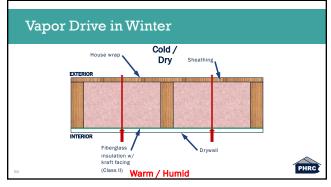








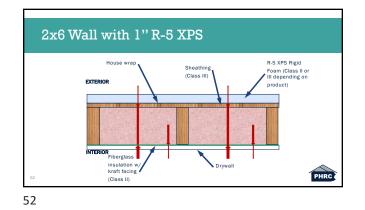


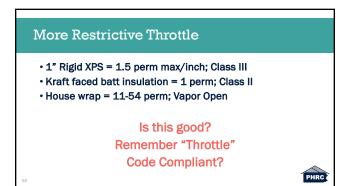




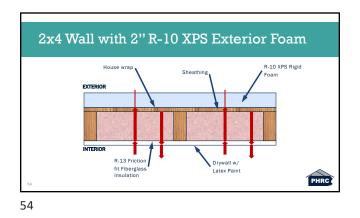
Fenestration Table													
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CLIMATE ZONE	FENESTRATION U-FACTOR <sup>b</sup>	SKYLIGHT <sup>b</sup> U-FACTOR	GLAZED FENESTRATION SHGC <sup>b,e</sup>	CEILING R-FACTOR	WOOD FRAME WALL R-VALUE	MASS WALL R-VALUE <sup>I</sup>	FLOOR R-VALUE	BASEMENT <sup>C</sup> WALL R-VALUE	SLAB <sup>d</sup> R-VALUE & DEPTH	CRAWI SPACE WALL R-VALU			
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3	0.32	0.55	0.25	38	20 or 13 + 5 <sup>h</sup>	8/13	19	5/13	0	5/13			
4 except Marine	0.32	0.55	0.40	49	20 or 13 + 5 <sup>h</sup>	8/13	19	10/13	10, 2ft	10/13			
5 and Marine 4	0.30	0.55	NR	49	23 or 13 + 7.5 <sup>h</sup> or 20 + 3.8 <sup>h</sup>	13/17	30 <sup>6</sup>	15/19	10, 4ft or 15, 3ft	15/19			
6	0.30	0.55	NR	49	20 + 5° or 13 + 10 <sup>8</sup>	15/20	30 <sup>6</sup>	15/19	10, 4 ft	15/19			
7 and 8	0.30	0.55	NR	49	20 + 5 <sup>h</sup> or 13 + 10 <sup>h</sup>	19/21	384	15/19	10, 4 ft	15/19			

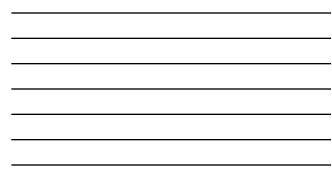


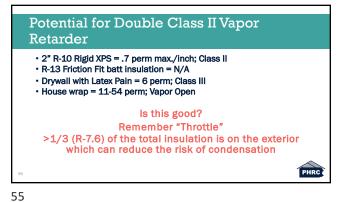




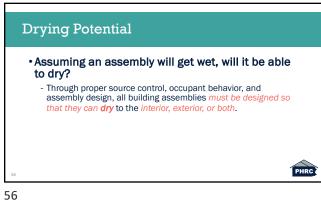


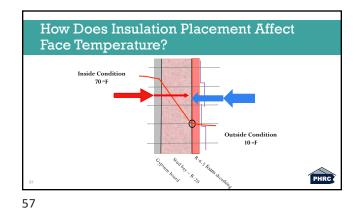




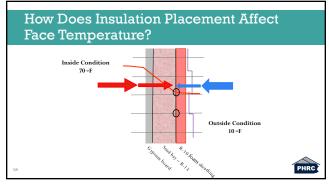


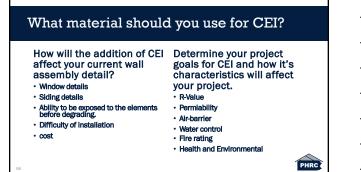














### **Common Materials Used for CEI**

- Rigid foam boards (e.g., XPS, EPS, polyiso)
  Mineral wool boards
- High-performance insulated sheathing (like ZIP R-sheathing)

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## Extruded Polystyrene (XPS)

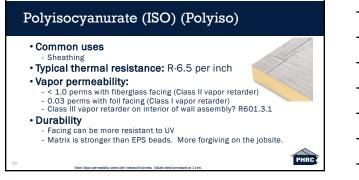
- Common uses
  - Sheathing
  - Under-slab insulation
- Typical thermal resistance: R-5 per inch
- Vapor permeability: 1.1 perms (Class III vapor retarder)
- Durability
- Avoid prolonged exposure to UV
- Matrix is stronger than EPS beads. More forgiving on the jobsite.

Expanded Polystyrene (EPS)

Common uses
Insulated concrete forms
Insulated concrete block
SIPs

Typical thermal resistance: R-4 per inch
Vapor permeability: 5 perms (Class III vapor retarder
Durability
Avoid prolonged exposure to UV
Requires care when cutting and handling (fragile edges)

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### Installation Details

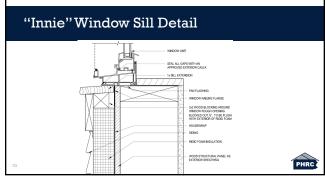
- Is your continuous exterior insulation part of your fore Control layers, air, water, vapor, thermal.
- What type of window are you going to be installing? Flanged or flangeless.
- Pre-planning your details for any penetrations within your building envelope.

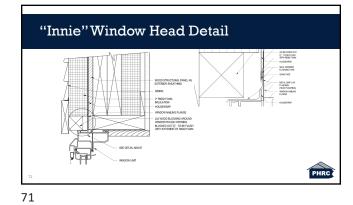
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