

FEMA RECOVERY POLICY FP-104-009-4 – Public Assistance Required Minimum Standards

POLICY STATEMENT – FEMA’s Public Assistance program will generally require the integration and use of the hazard-resistant provisions of the **International Code Council’s (ICC) International Building Code (IBC), the International Existing Building Code (IEBC), and/or the International Residential Code (IRC)** as a minimum design standard for all eligible building restoration projects where the design standard is triggered.

PURPOSE – The purpose of the policy is to establish minimum standards for Public Assistance projects to promote resiliency and achieve risk reduction under the authority of the Stafford Act.

PRINCIPLES – Integration of nationally recognized consensus-based building codes and standards into Public Assistance activities will: 1) Protect Lives and property; 2) Support the efficient use of federal dollars; and 3) Increase effectiveness.

REQUIREMENTS – As a condition of assistance, buildings eligible for repair, replacement, or construction located in hazard-prone areas will use, at a minimum, the hazard-resistant standards referenced in the most recent edition of the model building code (**IBC, IEBC, and IRC**) as of the disaster declaration state.

APPLICABILITY – This policy applies to all Public Assistance funded repair, replacement, or construction of buildings in tornado, wind, seismic, and flood-prone areas, the location of which is identified in the **IBC, IEBC, or IRC**, regardless of the type of incident that caused the damage.