

Proposed Significant Changes from the 2012 International Residential Code to the 2018

Table R301.2(1) Climatic and Geographic Design Criteria.

Ice Barrier Underlayment Required. Yes

Change:

This section now requires two layers of roofing underlayment or a self-adhering polymer-modified bitumen sheet to be installed at the lowest edges of roof surfaces to extend to not less than 24 inches inside the exterior wall line. The added layers of protection prevent water damage to dwellings that are created from ice forming at the lowest point and thawing.

Section 507 Decks.

Change:

The IRC in previous adopted additions has not given prescriptive requirements for deck construction. The 2018 code now has a section for minimum deck design and construction.

Section E3901.9 Basements, garages and accessory buildings.

Change:

Requires receptacles to be installed in each bay of a garage.

E3902.16 Arc-fault circuit-interrupter protection.

Change:

This will require Arc-fault circuit-interrupter protection for all 120 volt 15 and 20 amp outlets in a house. This has previously been amended to only require arc-fault protection in bedrooms.

Section E4002.14 Tamper-resistant receptacles.

Change:

This will require all accessible 15 – 20 amp receptacles to be tamper resistant.