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Building Department
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Design Criteria and Current Codes

Commercial Permits

2022 Oregon Structural Specialty Code (OSSC)
2021 International Energy Conservation Code and ASHRAE 90.1-2019
2022 Oregon Mechanical Specialty Code (OMSC)
2023 Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code (OPSC)
2023 Oregon Electrical Specialty Code (OESC)

Referenced Standards:
ASCE 7-16 Minimum Design Loads and Assoc. Criteria
ICC A117.1-2017 Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities
NFPA 13-19 Standard for Installation of Sprinkler Systems (Also 13D-19, 13R-19)

General Design Requirements

OR Building Codes Division Link to Oregon Design Criteria Hub

- **Earthquake:** Section 1613 – Link to information https://hazards.atcouncil.org/
- **Snow:** Section 1608
  The minimum design roof snow load is 25 psf where applicable.
  Ground snow load used for determining drift requirements is based on *Snow Load Analysis for Oregon* as published by the Structural Engineer Association of Oregon. Ground snow loads at a specific site can be determined at the following link: http://snowload.seao.org/lookup.html.
- **Wind:** Section 1609
- **Soils:** Geotechnical investigations per Section 1803 (reporting per Sec. 1803.6)
- **Rain:** OSSC 1611, AND OPSC Table D101.1, 1.3" per hour (100-year, 1-hour rainfall)

Residential Permits

2023 Oregon Residential Specialty Code

The structural requirements for residential projects may be either prescriptive or engineered. In prescriptive design, the ORSC (Oregon Residential Specialty Code) defines a conservative method of construction to resist vertical and lateral loads. In engineered design, an engineer licensed in the State of Oregon prepares engineering calculations and drawings that demonstrate how the structure resists vertical and lateral loads.
The following are design values may be used for prescriptive residential design:

Snow: 25 psf roof / 36 psf ground snow load **Frost Depth:** 12 inches
Wind: 96 mph
Seismic: Design Category is D_0
OR Building Codes Division Link to Oregon Design Criteria Hub