

## FAQ – CHANGES TO ICC COMBINATION PROGRAMS

(MCP, CBO, CFM, Certified Code Officials – including Permit Technician)

### 1. Master Code Professional [MCP]

- What
  - The core and elective credits needed to obtain the Master Code Professional are being revised. Although the number of credits has not changed, the specific required and elective titles have.
  - Existing MCPs will not be impacted by these changes.
- Why
  - The revisions are being made to better reflect the technical nature of the MCP, with exam content appropriate to the professional that would seek the component certifications, as contrasted with the Certified Building Official and Certified Fire Marshal.
- When
  - Launch date = January 1, 2015
  - Individuals that are already in the process of obtaining the required current exams/modules will have until December 31, 2016, to successfully complete the current requirements.
  - Effective January 1, 2017, any individual wishing to obtain the MCP designation will follow the new requirements.

## 2. Certified Building Official [CBO] and Certified Fire Marshal [CFM]

- What
  - The existing modules required to attain status as a Certified Building Official are being revised from two to three, with module content changing as well.
  - The Legal and Management modules will be the same as those required for the Certified Fire Marshal [CFM], and will contain material relevant to the CBO, the CFM, or both.
- Why
  - In efforts to support coordination between the Fire Services and Building groups within ICC, the former Board for International Professional Standards directed the CBO and Fire Services Exam Development Committees to look for ways to work together in developing content that could be used by individuals seeking either a CBO or CFM. The two committees met in July to create new shared modules, as well as fire- and building-specific technical modules.
  - Expansion of the modules required for the CBO and CFM also strengthens both credentials, raising the bar of competency required to attain and maintain these designations.
- When and how
  - See transition plan on next page

#### Current:

- CBO Certified Building Official consists of two modules, to be passed within a 3-year period
  - 01 Legal/Management
  - 02 Technology
- CFM Certified Fire Marshal prerequisites consist of at least three exams and one combination designation (no time period for passing all)
  - 01 Legal/Management
  - 02 Technology
    - CBO modules must be passed within a 3-year period of each other
  - 66 Fire Inspector I
    - Not specifically listed, but is prerequisite to 67 certification
  - 67 Fire Inspector II
  - F3 Fire Plans Examiner
  - FM Certified Fire Marshal

#### New:

- CBO to consist of three modules, to be passed within a 3-year period
  - MG Legal
  - MM Management
  - BC Codes and Standards (Building)
- CFM to consist of three modules, to be passed within a 3-year period
  - MG Legal
  - MM Management
  - FC Codes and Standards (Fire)

#### Timeline:

- August, 2014
  - Start announcing changes to CBO and CFM, with dates and FAQs
- January 1, 2015
  - Launch MG, MM, BC, and FC modules; candidates can immediately use the new paths to obtain CBO and/or CFM
  - Candidates who had previously taken and passed either the 01 or 02 have until December 31, 2016, to complete the remaining module, or must follow the new path
  - Candidates who had previously taken and passed none of the above exams must follow new CBO and CFM paths
- January 1, 2017
  - Sunset 01, 02, and FM
  - Transitions for candidates already on one or both paths take place as follows:
    - 01 = transitions to MG and MM
    - 02 = transitions to BC
    - 66 + 67 + F3 + FM = transitions to FC

3. Certified Code Officials [CECO, CBCO, CFCO, CMCO, CPCO, CHCO] – to Code Specialists [BCS, ECS, FCS, MCS, PCS, HZCS, PS]

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS PLANNED TRANSITION IS ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. NO CHANGES ARE BEING MADE TO THE CERTIFIED CODE OFFICIAL TITLES AT THIS TIME; HOWEVER, THE PERMIT SPECIALIST ADDITION IS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2015.**

- What
  - The existing Certified Code Official combinations are being transitioned to Code Specialist titles, with changes to the required modules.
  - A new designation, Permit Specialist, is being added.
- Why
  - The revisions are being made to better reflect the technical nature of the designations, with exam content appropriate to the professional that would seek the component certifications.
- When
  - Launch date = January 1, 2015
  - Individuals that are already in the process of obtaining the required current exams/modules will have until December 31, 2016, to successfully complete the current requirements.
  - Effective January 1, 2017, any individual wishing to obtain one of the Code Specialist designations will follow the new requirements.

**Upcoming Changes to Designation Titles**

<b>Combo ID</b>	<b>Current Designation Title</b>	<b>Current Required Exams</b>	<b>New Designation Title</b>	<b>New Required Exams</b>
B6	Certified Building Code Official (CBCO)	B1, B2, B3, 01, 02	Building Code Specialist (BCS)	B1, B2, B3, CS
E6	Certified Electrical Code Official (CECO)	E1, E2, E3, 01, 02	Electrical Code Specialist (ECS)	E1, E2, E3, CS
F6	Certified Fire Code Official (CFCO)	67, F3, 01, 02	Fire Code Specialist (FCS)	67, F3, CS
M6	Certified Mechanical Code Official (CMCO)	M1, M2, M3, 01, 02	Mechanical Code Specialist (MCS)	M1, M2, M3, CS
P6	Certified Plumbing Code Official (CPCO)	P1, P2, P3, 01, 02	Plumbing Code Specialist (PCS)	P1, P2, P3, CS
H6	Certified Housing Code Official (CHCO)	B1, 64, 75, 01, 02	Housing and Zoning Code Specialist (HZCS)	B1, 64, 75, CS
FM	Certified Fire Marshal	67, F3, 01, 02	Certified Fire Marshal (CFM)	MM, MG, FC
CB	Certified Building Official (CBO)	01, 02	Certified Building Official (CBO)	MM, MG, BC
			Permit Specialist (PS) – <b>NEW</b>	14, CS

#### Certification Exam Codes

B1	Residential Building Inspector
B2	Commercial Building Inspector
B3	Building Plans Examiner
E1	Residential Electrical Inspector
E2	Commercial Electrical Inspector
E3	Electrical Plans Examiner
67	Fire Inspector II
F3	Fire Plans Examiner
M1	Residential Mechanical Examiner
M2	Commercial Mechanical Examiner
M3	Mechanical Plans Examiner
P1	Residential Plumbing Inspector
P2	Commercial Plumbing Inspector
P3	Plumbing Plans Examiner
64	Property and Maintenance Housing Inspector
75	Zoning Inspector
01	Legal/Management module ( <i>sunsets 12/31/2016</i> )
02	Technology module ( <i>sunsets 12/31/2016</i> )
CS	Code Specialist module (includes legal, management, and customer service content)– <b>NEW</b>
MM	Management module – <b>NEW</b>
MG	Legal module – <b>NEW</b>
FC	Fire Codes and Standards module – <b>NEW</b>
BC	Building Codes and Standards module – <b>NEW</b>