

**NC Department of Insurance  
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division  
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919-661-5880**

**Options for Commercial Building Energy Code Compliance**

**Code:** 2012 Energy Conservation Code  
**Section:** 501.1

**Date:** July 3, 2012

**Question:**

What are my options for energy code compliance for commercial buildings?

**Answer:**

Section 501.1 requires compliance with American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) 90.1-2007 (Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low Rise Residential Buildings) +20% or compliance with the prescriptive requirements of Chapter 5. Therefore, either the provisions of ASHRAE 90.1-2007 with additional savings of 20% over that standard or the prescriptive provisions of Chapter 5 may be used to satisfy the requirements of the 2012 NC Energy Conservation Code for commercial buildings.

Note that the use of ASHRAE 90.1-2007 will require that the user obtain the standard directly from ASHRAE. ASHRAE is located in Atlanta, GA and their office can be contacted by calling (404) 636-8400. The standard may also be obtained from their website at: [www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org).