



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

Date of Verification: Spring 2024

The Community Rating System (CRS) provides credit to communities for certain state laws, regulations, and standards that support floodplain management within a state and have proven effective in reducing flood damage. This Verification Report is provided to explain the recommendations of Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO) to DHS/FEMA concerning state-based credits under the CRS within the above state.

There are two sections to this report: State-based credit, and Other potential credit.

State-based credit is awarded to communities for activities that are implemented and enforced by the state. The credit is provided to each community in the state and documentation is not needed from the community.

Other potential credit lists the CRS activities for which communities may receive CRS credit based on, or due to, state or regional programs or regulations that are implemented within the community. There is also information regarding use of a state-based model ordinance, if present in the state. The potential credits must be verified by the ISO/CRS Specialists within each community, since enforcement is done at the community (or regional) level.

The following is a summary of state-based credit and other potential credit based on the *2017 CRS Coordinator's Manual* and *2021 Addendum*:

State Based Credit

| ACTIVITY | ELEMENT | POINTS |
|----------|---------|--------|
| | | |

No state-based credit has been verified at this time.

Other Potential Credit

ISO/CRS Specialists and the community need to determine which credits may apply to an individual community. The following is a summary of activities that are potential credits:

| ACTIVITY | ELEMENT |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 430 (Higher Regulatory Standards) | Other BC1–building codes |
| 450 (Stormwater Management) | ESC–erosion & sedimentation control WQ–water quality |
| 630 (Dams) | SDS–state dam safety |
| | |

Activity 430 & Potential Higher Regulatory Standards in the State’s Model Ordinance

State Model Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance

The West Virginia Emergency Management Division is the State NFIP Coordinating Agency. A model ordinance is offered on the agency website, however, is not endorsed or required by the agency.

Website: [Floodplain Management \(wv.gov\)](http://www.wv.gov/floodplain)

Ordinance for 60.3(a): [NEW State Model Ordinance 2019.pdf \(wv.gov\)](http://www.wv.gov/new-state-model-ordinance-2019.pdf)

- No higher standards model text is provided or available on the website.

Activity 430 (Higher Regulatory Standards) Element BC1, Building Codes

The West Virginia State Building Code is based on the 2018 International Building Code and 2018 International Residential Code. The state has also adopted 2018 International Mechanical Code and 2018 International Fuel Gas Code and 2018 International Plumbing Code. The State Fire commission administers the. Local governments are not required to enforce the WVSBC, but if they adopt building codes they must use the state’s code.

Some counties are home rule in WV. Even if they choose to administer a code, home rule counties need not use the state code.

- IBC Appendix G is not adopted. <https://codes.iccsafe.org/codes/west-virginia>

[§8-12-13 \(wvlegislature.gov\)](http://www.wvlegislature.gov)

Activity 450 (Stormwater Management)

ESC–EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL WQ–WATER QUALITY

Land disturbance permits are required for construction disturbance activities of one or more acres or construction activities that disturb less than one acre when part of a larger common plan of development or sale that will disturb a cumulative total of one or more acres over the life of the project.

Website: [Construction Stormwater General Permit \(wv.gov\)](https://www.dnr.wv.gov/Portals/0/Construction%20Stormwater%20General%20Permit.pdf)

Activity 630 (Dams) Element SDS, State Dam Safety

Credit available for activities of the state's dam safety program is based on the Dam Safety Program Management Tool. Credit for element SDS is limited to communities that would be affected by a flood from the failure of a high-hazard-potential dam. This must be documented with a description and a map.

- West Virginia's Division of Water and Waste Management Dam Safety Program [Dam Safety \(wv.gov\)](https://www.dnr.wv.gov/Portals/0/Dam%20Safety.pdf)

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers National Inventory of Dams webpage at <https://nid.sec.usace.army.mil/#/> documents the dams and flood inundation maps information. [FEMA's Dam Safety](https://www.fema.gov/dam-safety) Office annually verifies element SDS credit.