



## RIBA EDUCATION BENEFITS

# MARCH 2026

**RIBA continues to offer a variety of educational offerings for Members & Employees! From safety, lead, codes, estimating and professional development, to a lot more, the education benefit is no cost to you and all your employees. An amazing and very popular benefit - call / email to register**

**March 2 | 8am-10:30am**

**Sizing and Placing Concrete Deck Footings and Post Connections**

**2 1/2 credit hours - taught by Mike Guertin**

Concrete deck footings are an industry mainstay but are often oversized or undersized. Learn two methods to right-size deck footings; how to determine the soil bearing capacity; and the best practice footing forming and pouring tips to ensure stability

**March 4 | 8am-10am**

**Taking Better Construction Photos With Your Cell Phone**

**no RI credit hours- taught by Bill Parmentier**

The building industry is a very visual industry and having quality pictures of your work is a key to getting more business. Join professional photographer Bill Parmentier as he discusses how to do a better job of this using your current cell phone.

**March 4 | 3:30pm-6pm**

**Project Management: Leveraging Office Tools**

**2 1/2 credit hours- taught by Brian Hall**

Are you using computer programs like Excel and Word to help your construction business manage projects, help with estimates, create reminders, and more? This class will show you how to best leverage those tools for more success.

**March 5 | 8am-10:30am**

**Residential Blueprint Reading**

**2 1/2 credit hours - taught by Luis Rivera**

This is an intro to residential blueprint reading, construction documents/calculations, and project specifications. Learn to read the legend, details, specifications, effectively use a scale ruler and find the different trade sections of blueprints and drawings.

(Note: this is a basic level class; a more advanced class will be held on April 2nd)

**March 6 | 8am-10:30am**

**Updates to the RI Residential Building Code**

**2 1/2 credit hours - taught by Larry Desormier (IN PERSON)**

**Attention Builders and Remodelers!** The State of Rhode Island adopted the new Building Codes on December 1, 2025. This class will explain the changes happening when Rhode Island moves from the present 2021 RI Residential Building Code (SBC-2021) to the new 2025 RI Residential Building Code (SBC-2025). The material will include the updates to the residential building code and what RI Amendments have been added, amended or deleted.

**March 9 | 8am-10:30am**

**Building Planning**

**2 1/2 credit hours - taught by Larry Desormier**

This class covers Chapter 3 of the Rhode Island One and Two Family Dwelling Code including design criteria and minimum fire separation for townhouses and one and two family dwellings.

**March 11 | 8am-10:30am**

**Networking to Grow Your Business**

**No credit hours for this class - taught by Bob Salvas**

Many people try networking to grow their business, but they often do it wrong. Find out the best ways to network.

**March 13 | 8am-10:30am**

**Introduction to the Design-Build Process**

**2 1/2 credit hours — taught by Joe Cracco**

In this 2.5-hour intro class, presenter Joe Cracco will describe what the Design-Build Process is, discuss its many benefits as well as who's involved and what they do. The course concludes with an overview of the 4 steps in the process. This course is a prerequisite for the 5-hour Advanced Design-Build class in which will go into the 4 steps in significant detail.

**March 17 | 8am-10am**

**Personal Finance for Contractors**

**no RI credit hours- taught by AJ Harmon**

This course is an excellent starting point for any contractor feeling overwhelmed by all the bills and the red tape that stands between them and financial freedom. You will learn where to start, how to organize your expenses and what things you should prioritize to start your personal finances successfully.

**March 18 | 8am-10:30am**

**RI General Law for One and Two Family Building Codes**

**2 1/2 credit hours — taught by Larry Desormier**

This class will cover how codes are adopted in the state of Rhode Island and general laws that apply to building codes

**March 19 | 8am-10:30am**

**Painting 101**

**2 1/2 credit hours- taught by Ben LeBlanc**

This class covers best practices for indoor and outdoor painting including techniques and spraying.

**March 20 | 8am-10:30am**

**Kitchen Design and Installation**

**2 1/2 credit hours — taught by Jason Oliveira**

This course covers the basics of designing a well-planned kitchen and how to install cabinetry, including the design process, material choices for cabinets and counters, utility and appliance placement, traffic flow and storage.

**March 24 & 25 | 8am-3pm (both days)**

**OSHA 10 Training**

**No RI credit hours; OSHA 10 card is issued. (IN PERSON) Taught by Scott Asprey**

Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Outreach Training Program's 10-hour safety course covers general safety and health hazards for entry-level workers.

**March 24 | 8am-11am**

**Comprehensive Energy Code**

**Update 2 1/2 credit hours — taught by Larry Desormier**

Attention: Builders, Remodelers and Building Officials! The 2024 Energy Code went into effect last year. Learn what you need to know about changes to the Code and learn options on how to be compliant. This class is an NAHB training module (#1) in partnership with RIBA. There will be a 1/2 hour Q & A following the class.

**March 25 | 9am-11:30am**

**Start & Grow Your Construction Business**

**2 1/2 credit hours- taught by David Lucier**

If you are looking to start or re-start your business, this class is for you. It covers all aspects of successful business ownership.

**March 30 | 8am-10:30am**

**Permanent Wood Foundations and Frost-Protected Shallow Foundations**

**2 1/2 credit hours — taught by Mike Guertin**

PWFs and FPSFs are a code-permitted ways to design and build foundations that are alternatives to concrete foundations. PWFs can be built by a framing crew and are fast to erect. FPSFs can be built from concrete or wood and are more cost-effective than conventional frost-depth foundations. They can be used on challenging lots or where regular basement foundations aren't practical. Learn what the codes are for PWFs and FPSFs and technical documents that provide additional details.

**March 31 | 9am-11:30am**

**Understanding QuickBooks Online**

**2 1/2 credit hours — taught by Jason Khoury**

After taking this course you'll better understand 'QuickBooks Online' and walk away with some tips on good bookkeeping practices.

**Contact Margarita Robledo for course offerings taught in Spanish at 401-374-1044**

**All classes will be taught via ZOOM unless otherwise indicated**

All classes are approved by the RICRLB for continuing education credits, unless otherwise indicated.

**Rhode Island Builders Association**  
450 Veterans Memorial Parkway, Bldg. 3  
East Providence, RI

**To register or for more information, contact Bob Salvas via email at [bsalvas@ribuilders.org](mailto:bsalvas@ribuilders.org) or by calling the RI Builders Association at 401-438-7400**