



John R. Kasich
Governor

Jacqueline T. Williams
Director

Follow us on Twitter! [@ohiobuilds](#)
[Visit us online!](#)

For Immediate Release
August 18, 2017

Contact: Matt Mullins (614) 644-2556
Matt.mullins@com.ohio.gov

Commerce Ensures Building Safety for Back-to-School

Going back to school is on the minds of many, including our staff. The Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Industrial Compliance (Division) works diligently year-round to ensure the buildings in which students learn, play and live are safely constructed. This includes Ohio colleges and universities, and many K-12 schools throughout the state.

“Students, parents, educators and staff spend a great deal of time at schools all over Ohio. Our plans reviewers, inspectors and licensed contractors take that responsibility very seriously and perform their duties with professionalism, efficiency and attention to detail,” said Commerce Director Jacqueline T. Williams.

The Division is responsible for ensuring the safety of Ohioans in public buildings such as educational institutions, businesses and municipal buildings. The staff reviews commercial building plans, conducts inspections, oversees the Ohio Building Code, considers appeals and variances to code requirements, and issues licenses to commercial contractors.

In Fiscal Year 2017, the Division conducted 5,575 building plan reviews and completed 25,531 structural, electrical and plumbing inspections. In addition, 17,553 commercial contractors in Ohio were licensed through the Ohio Construction Industry Licensing Board (OCILB). The Division helps facilitate schools’ needs by offering same day and next day inspections, and video inspections during the busy time just prior to back-to-school. The Division’s expedited processes and accommodations allow the schools to meet their deadlines and stay on schedule, which benefits all Ohio students and their families.

###