
# PRESTANDARD AND COMMENTARY FOR THE SEISMIC REHABILITATION OF BUILDINGS

**Prepared by**
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**Prepared for**
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**Washington, D.C.**

**November 2000**
**Federal Emergency Management Agency**
**Washington, D.C.**

# Preface

The title of this document, FEMA 356 *Prestandard and Commentary for the Seismic Rehabilitation of Buildings,* incorporates a word that not all users may be familiar with. That word—prestandard—has a special meaning within the ASCE Standards Program in that it signifies the document has been accepted for use as the start of the formal standard development process, however, the document has yet to be fully processed as a voluntary consensus standard.

Users of this prestandard should be aware that the ASCE Standards Committee on Seismic Rehabilitation of Buildings is currently reviewing, discussing, and potentially revising the document prior to issuing it as a voluntary consensus standard. The Standards Committee, with over 150 members, has voted to accept this prestandard as the initial draft for their standard which, upon completion, will be suitable for adoption by building codes and inclusion in contracts. In early 2001, the Standards Committee will begin committee balloting on this document to be followed by an open public ballot period. The process the Standards Committee will follow will be in accordance with the ASCE Rules for Standards Committees. These rules have been approved by the ASCE Board of Direction and by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). A copy of these rules may be found in the ASCE Official Register.

If you would like to participate in the formal standard development process either as a member of the Standards Committee or as part of the public ballot process, please contact ASCE's Standards Coordinator, Kim Brubaker, ASCE, 1801 Alexander Bell Drive, Reston, VA 20191.

*American Society of Civil Engineers*

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