



Egress Window Guideline & Dimensions

Disclaimer: *This is not a list of all code sections involving building or utilities which involve this subject, but only sections most often questioned. Refer to International Residential Building Code for complete details.*

Emergency Escape and Rescue Openings: Every sleeping room shall have at least one operable emergency and rescue opening. Such opening shall open directly into a public street, public alley, yard, or court. Where basements contain one or more sleeping rooms, emergency egress and rescue openings shall be required in each sleeping room, but shall not be required in adjoining areas of the basement.

Minimum Opening Area: All emergency escape and rescue openings shall have a minimum net clear opening of 5.7 square feet. An exception for grade floor openings shall have a minimum net clear opening of 5.0 square feet.

Minimum Opening Height: The minimum net clear opening height shall be 24 inches. The minimum height is based on the height necessary to admit a firefighter with full rescue equipment including breathing apparatus.

Minimum Opening Width: The minimum net clear opening width shall be 20 inches. The minimum width is based on 2 criteria: the width necessary to place a ladder within the window opening and the width necessary to admit a firefighter with full rescue equipment including breathing apparatus.

Bedroom Egress Window Opening Minimum Width & Height Requirement Matrix (inches)

Width	20	21	22	23	24	25	25	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
Height	41	39	37	35	34	33	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24