

This handout is a **guide** only and does not contain all of the requirements of the Minnesota State Building Code or city ordinances.

REQUIREMENTS FOR INSTALLING EGRESS WINDOWS:

1. Sill height not more than 44 inches above the floor.
2. All emergency escape and rescue openings shall have a min. net clear opening of 5.7 sq. ft. (821 sq in). **Exception:** Grade floor openings shall have a net clear opening of 5 sq. ft. (720 sq. in.)
3. The minimum net clear opening width shall be 20".
4. The minimum net clear opening height shall be 24".

REQUIREMENT FOR EGRESS WINDOW WELLS:

1. The clear horizontal dimensions shall allow the window to be fully opened. The horizontal dimensions of the window well shall provide a minimum area of 9 sq. ft. with a minimum horizontal projection and width of 36 inches.
2. Window wells with a depth greater than 44 inches below the adjacent ground level need a permanently fixed ladder or steps usable with the window in the fully open position. The ladder or stairs shall not encroach into the required dimensions of the window well more than 6 inches.

SMOKE ALARM REQUIREMENTS:

When interior alterations, repairs, or additions requiring a permit occur, or when one or more sleeping rooms are added or created in existing dwellings, the individual dwelling unit shall be provided with smoke alarms in accordance with IRC Section R317. This requirement also applies to window replacements.



