# Emergency Escape and Rescue Openings 

 (Family Home Emergency Exit Windows)
## 2018 Washington State Residential Code, Section R310, Emergency Escape and Rescue Openings states:

- The opening must be at least 5.7 square feet (820.8 square inches).
- Exception: Grade-floor openings or below-grade openings need to be at least 5 square feet (720 square inches).
- The minimum opening width must be at least 20 inches.
- The minimum opening height must be at least 24 inches.
- Windowsill height must be no more than 44 inches above the floor.
- The exterior landing is no more than 48 inches below the exterior windowsill.
- The emergency escape and rescue opening must open directly to a public right of way, yard, or court providing an unobstructed path that is at least 36 inches wide and opens to a public right of way.
- If the windowsill height is below grade, it must have an approved window well (per Residential Code).
- Please note that in some areas the Washington State Residential Code is more restrictive than the International Building Code.


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