

Office of the Fire Marshal

Exterior Emergency Escape and Rescue Opening Access

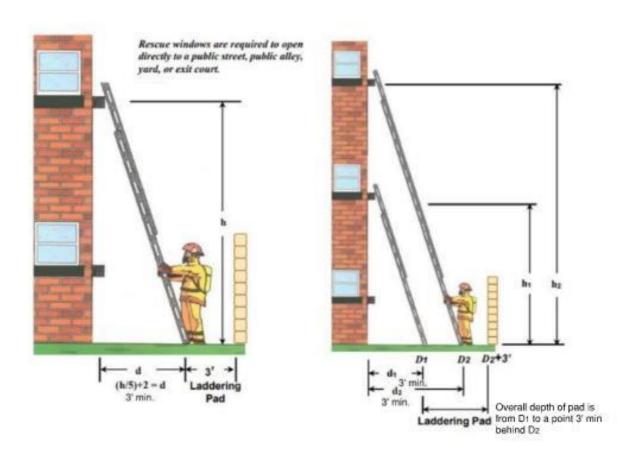
Section 1030 of the 2019 CFC/CBC requires emergency escape and rescue openings in residential buildings where occupants may be sleeping during fire within buildings of Type IIIB, Type VA, and Type VB construction.

An all-weather pathway/surface or ladder pad shall be provided for ground ladder access meeting all of the following requirements:

- 1. All-weather pathway/surface used as ladder pads or individual ladder pads shall be located at rescue windows.
- 2. For interior courtyards, a straight pathway with a minimum 6'-0" width, from the publicway through the building to individual pads located under interior rescue windows shall be provided (code compliant stairs for ladder carriers' access are acceptable). If offsets are required, assume 15' ladder length can be accommodated with the fire fighters.
- 3. Ladder pad shall be designed and installed so that the extended ladder angle of inclination is at least 70 degree and no greater than 76 degree from horizontal. An easy way to determine the proper distance from building to ladder base is to divide the required length of ladder by four. Some sample numbers are shown in chart on next page.
- 4. Ladder setup shall not be obstructed by architectural features, trees, or landscaping.
- 5. Ladder pads shall not be less than 6'-0" wide by not less than 7'-0" deep.
- 6. A level, slip-resistant, all-weather surface, capable of supporting the weight of the ladder, firefighters in gear, equipment, and persons to be rescued. Ladder pad shall be engineered to support a minimum 1000- pound load. Concrete, asphalt, pavers, or other approved engineered surface will be acceptable and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- 7. Ladder pads shall be permanently marked "Fire Ladder Pad".



Ladder Pad Setback at Rescue Openings



| Sill Height (h) | Distance (d) |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 35' | 9'-0" |
| 34' | 8'-10" |
| 33' | 8'-7" |
| 32' | 8' -5'' |
| 31' | 8'-2" |
| 30' | 8'-0" |
| 29' | 7'-10" |
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| Placement | of | Ladder | • |
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| Sill Height (h) | Distance (d) |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 25' | 7'-0'' |
| 24' | 6' -10'' |
| 23' | 6'-7'' |
| 22' | 6'-5'' |
| 21' | 6' -2'' |
| 20' | 6'-0'' |
| 19' | 5' -10" |
| 18' | 5' -7'' |
| 17' | 5'-5'' |
| 16' | 5'-2" |

| Sill Height (h) | Distance (d) |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 15' | 5'-0" |
| 14' | 4' to 5' |
| 13' | 4' to 5' |
| 12' | 3' to 5' |
| 11' | 3' to 4' |