

MINNESOTA CODE HISTORY for EMERGENCY ESCAPE and RESCUE OPENINGS (EERO)¹

Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry

Uniform Building Codes

Model code year	Adopted date	Code section	Minimum opening area	Minimum height and width dimensions	Maximum sill height above floor
UBC 1961	Not adopted	No requirements			
UBC 1964	Not adopted	3320	5.0 s.f.	H and W not less than 24 inches	48 inches
UBC 1967	Not adopted	3320	5.0 s.f.	H and W not less than 22 inches	48 inches
UBC 1970	7/1/1972	1404	5.0 s.f.	H and W not less than 22 inches	48 inches
UBC 1973	1/14/1974	1404	5.0 s.f.	H and W not less than 22 inches	48 inches
UBC 1976	9/19/1978	1404	5.7 s.f.	24-inches height and 20-inches width	48 inches (Minnesota amendment)
UBC 1979	9/9/1980	1204	5.7 s.f.	24-inches height and 20-inches width	48 inches (Minnesota amendment)
UBC 1982	3/1/1983	1204	5.7 s.f.	24-inches height and 20-inches width	48 inches (Minnesota amendment)
UBC 1985	2/17/1987	1204	5.7 s.f.	24-inches height and 20-inches width	48 inches (Minnesota amendment)
UBC 1988 ²	7/16/1990	1204	5.7 s.f.	24-inches height and 20-inches width	44 inches
UBC 1991	Not adopted				
UBC 1994	3/20/1995	310.4	5.7 s.f.	24-inches height and 20-inches width	44 inches
UBC 1997	10/5/1998	310.4	5.7 s.f.	24-inches height and 20-inches width	44 inches

International Building Codes

Model code year	Adopted date	Code section	Minimum opening area	Minimum height and width dimensions	Maximum sill height above floor
IBC 2000 IRC 2000	3/1/2003 3/1/2003	1009 R310	5.7 s.f. ³	24-inches height and 20-inches width	44 inches
IBC 2003 IRC 2003	Not adopted				
IBC 2006 IRC 2006	7/10/2007 7/10/2007	1026 R310	5.7 s.f. ³	24-inches height and 20-inches width	44 inches
IBC 2009 IRC 2009	Not adopted				
IBC 2012 IRC 2012 ⁴	6/2/2015 1/24/2015	1029 R310	5.7 s.f. ³	24-inches height and 20-inches width	44 inches
IBC 2018 IRC 2018	6/2/2015 1/24/2015	1030 R310	5.7 s.f. ³	24-inches height and 20-inches width	44 inches
IBC 2021 IRC 2021	Not adopted				
IBC 2024 IRC 2024	Scheduled for adoption				

¹ The opening size of EEROs that were compliant at the time the dwelling was constructed are not required to be enlarged.

² Beginning with the 1988 UBC, EEROs were required in basements and every sleeping room.

³ The code has an exception that permits grade-floor EEROs with a minimum net clear opening of not less than 5 square feet

⁴ Beginning with the 2012 IRC, EEROs were required in basements, habitable attics and every sleeping room.

Notes:

- Window fall protection requirements apply to all windows, including EEROs, that meet the criteria.
- Window fall protection was required for windows having sill heights less than 36 inches (2012 IBC 1013.8; 2012 IRC R312.2 with MN amendment; 2018 IBC 1015.8; 2018 IRC R312.2 with MN amendment).
- Effective July 1, 2021, windows fall prevention devices are required in one- and two-family dwellings and townhouses when sill heights are less than 24 inches. (MS 326B.106, subd. 7)
- EERO replacement windows must comply with code provisions (2000 IRC R310.1.5 with MN amendment; 2006 IRC R310.1.5 with MN amendment; 2012 IRC R310.1.5 with MN amendment; 2018 IRC R310.2.5 with MN amendment; 2012 IBC 1029.6 with MN amendment; and 2018 International Existing Building Code (IEBC) with MN amendments. (Minnesota Conservation Code for Existing Buildings)