

**WAC 296-96-24425 Guarding of floor openings.** Except on the entrance or exit side, floor openings at each landing shall be guarded.

(1) The guards shall be constructed by one of the following methods:

- (a) A standard railing and toeboard;
- (b) Panels of wire mesh (not less than No. 10 U.S. gauge);
- (c) Panels of expanded metal (not less than No. 13 U.S. gauge);
- (d) Panels of sheet metal (not less than No. 13 U.S. gauge); or
- (e) Metal on a frame of either angle iron (at least 1 1/4 by 1 1/8 in.) or 1 1/4 in. iron pipe.

(2) When a belt manlift is installed in a stairwell, a standard guardrail shall be placed between the floor openings and the stairway.

(3) Rails or guards shall be:

(a) At least 42 in. high on the up-running side and 66 in. high on the down-running side; and

(b) Be located not more than 1.0 ft. from the edge of the floor opening.

(4) If a guardrail is used, the section of the guard above the rail may be constructed:

(a) According to ASME A90.1; or

(b) Using either vertical or horizontal bars capable of rejecting a 6 in. diameter ball.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.87 RCW. WSR 18-18-070, § 296-96-24425, filed 8/31/18, effective 10/1/18.]