



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 8503**



Date January 27, 2021

Edition 2014

Section 1029

Question:

In a new construction home, does a bedroom window that is 37 X 47 meet egress requirements? As the code states opening minimum of 24 inches with exception of opening of 5 sqft. As in this case, the window would open to about 23.5 inches but would be at least 5 SQFT in total. Im just not clear.

Answer

Please note that the requestor is using the Building code section, not the residential code section in this discussion of a new home.

The Code requires a minimum net CLEAR opening of 24" high and a minimum net clear opening width of 20"; with the net clear opening dimensions being the result of normal operation of the opening. Total square footage of that net clear opening is 5.7 sq ft (5 sq ft if on grade level)

Commentary:

You have to meet all three minimum net clear openings - Height, width and opening for it to meet the egress requirements.

Notice:

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, ICC, and industry and professional experts offer this interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This interpretation is informal, non-binding and subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.