

**NC Department of Insurance  
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division  
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**Skylights Used as Emergency Escape and Rescue Openings**

**Code:** 2012 Residential  
**Section:** R310

**Date:** August 5, 2014

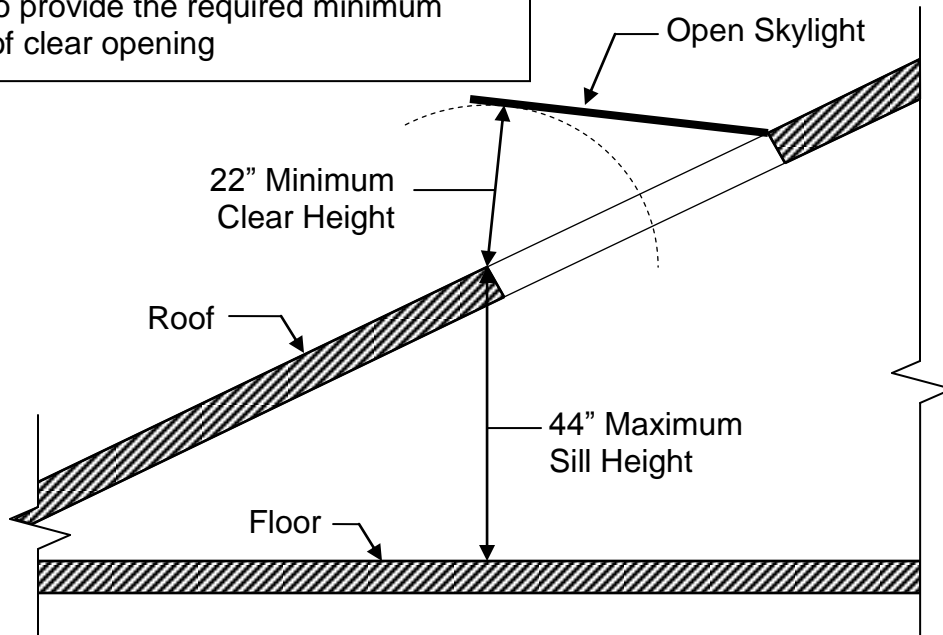
**Question:**

Can skylights that meet the requirements of Section R310 be used as emergency escape and rescue openings?

**Answer:**

Yes. The minimum opening height, width, and area must be available with the skylight in the open position (see sketch below).

EXAMPLE of OPENING DIMENSIONING:  
22" clear height requires a 37 1/2" clear width to provide the required minimum 5.7 sf of clear opening



SKETCH

**Keywords:**

Roof, means of egress, bedroom, sleeping room, emergency escape and rescue window, egress window