



STANFORD UNIVERSITY

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

OHS Report# 07-210

Guidelines for Safe Roof Access

Personnel accessing Stanford University building roofs are to follow safe work practices for ensuring life safety as well as Cal/OSHA regulatory compliance [Title 8, California Code of Regulations, Sections 1670, 3209-3212].

Personnel who access any roofs must be trained on general safe practices that are relevant to their work, including but not limited to the following:

Fall Prevention

A. DO NOT APPROACH WITHIN 6 FEET of any:	
➤ <u>Roof edge</u> unless protected by.....	Guardrails <i>Exception: For intermittent work (less than four times a year), a safety belt and lanyard, or an approved fall protection system may be used in lieu of guardrails. Contact EH&S at x3-0448 for detailed requirements.</i>
➤ <u>Access hatch</u> unless protected by.....	Hinged or removable cover; OR Removable railings
➤ <u>Skylight*</u> unless protected by.....	Skylight screens or covers; OR Guardrails; OR Personal fall protection system
<i>* Personnel may only have access onto glazed roof surfaces if an engineer has certified the structure for such anticipated loads AND if protected by personal fall protection. Contact EH&S at x3-0448 for detailed requirements.</i>	
B. Ladder Use — for roof access:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ladders shall extend at least 3 feet above the point of support at eave, gutter, or roof line • Personnel shall be trained on safe ladder use 	

General Roof Safety

A. Before beginning roof work:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain local authorization—contact the applicable Zone Office (http://www-facilities.stanford.edu/zones/) for roof access clearance. Exception: FacOps, Housing, and Athletics personnel are to gain authorization from their direct supervisors. • Pay attention to any posted safety signage at roof access point(s) • For any roof safety concerns, contact the local Zone Office or EH&S at x3-0448 • If rooftop activities might generate dust or odors in the vicinity of building air intakes, contact EH&S for project review
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(Cont'd. – General Roof Safety, Before beginning roof work)

- Assess work conditions-- avoid or restrict roof access/ work when
 - wet or windy weather conditions exist
 - after dark, unless adequate illumination is available
- Inspect site & equipment. Evaluate:
 - Structural integrity of the roof surface to safely support heavy equipment/ tools-- as needed, consult with building/ zone engineers
 - Condition of equipment (protective fall restraint system, personal protective equipment, etc.)
 - Potential insects/ pest problems on the roof (i.e. beehives, wasps, bird dropping, etc.)

B. During roof work

- Ensure safety down below-- For work being performed close to the roof's edge, demarcate/ barricade the area(s) below to protect pedestrian from falling debris
- Pay extra attention to where you walk and avoid stepping backwards

C. Finishing up

- General housekeeping-- Prior to leaving the roof, clean up and remove all tools/ equipment, and materials
- Never leave any items on the rooftop that can be blown off by the wind
- Lock the roof access door and/or hatch to prevent unauthorized roof access

Contact EH&S at (650)723-0448 for any questions regarding roof safety.