

**Department of Labor and Industry**

**Proposed Permanent Rules Adopting a Change to the International Residential Code**

**1309.0311 SECTION R311, MEANS OF EGRESS.**

[For text of subp 1, see M.R.]

Subp. 2. **IRC section R311.7.1, Stairways Width.** Section R311.7.1 is amended to ~~read as follows~~ deleted and replaced with the following:

~~**R311.7.1 Stairways.** All stairways serving a dwelling or accessory structure, or any part thereof, shall comply with this section. This shall include exterior stairs from a dwelling or garage to grade and those stairs serving decks, porches, balconies, sun rooms, and similar structures.~~

**Exceptions:**

- ~~1. Stairs serving attics or crawl spaces.~~
- ~~2. Stairs that only provide access to plumbing, mechanical, or electrical equipment.~~

**R311.7.1 Stairways; general.**

**R311.7.1.1 Stairways serving dwellings or accessory structures.** All stairways serving a dwelling or accessory structure, or any part thereof, shall comply with this section. This shall include exterior stairs from a dwelling or garage to grade and those stairs serving decks, porches, balconies, sun rooms, and similar structures.

**Exceptions:**

1. Stairs serving attics or crawl spaces.
2. Stairs that only provide access to plumbing, mechanical, or electrical equipment.

**R311.7.1.2 Width.** Stairways shall not be less than 36 inches (914 mm) in clear width at all points above the permitted handrail height and below the

required headroom height. Handrails shall not project more than 4.5 inches (114 mm) on either side of the stairway and the minimum clear width of the stairway at and below the handrail height, including treads and landings, shall not be less than 31-1/2 inches (787 mm) where a handrail is installed on one side and 27 inches (698 mm) where handrails are provided on both sides.

**Exception:** The width of spiral stairways shall be in accordance with Section R311.7.10.1.

[For text of subp 3, see M.R.]

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** Minnesota Rules, part 1309.0311, subpart 2, is effective January 24, 2017.