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Purpose

While work at UAA requiring fall protection is limited, there are still some activities that require a harness and lanyard. This document is comprised of the requirements of those activities as well as the equipment necessary. Scaffolding information has been included as well; the use of scaffolding almost always necessitates the use of fall PPE.

Responsibilities

Management

- Conduct routine inspections to ensure all walking and working surfaces are free from slip, trip and fall hazards.
- Conduct training for employees who use ladders, scaffolds or other elevated platforms
- Conduct training in use and inspection of fall prevention & arrest equipment
- Ensure proper ladders are used for specific tasks
- Provide adequate fall prevention & arrest equipment

Employees

- Maintain work areas free from slip, trip & fall hazards
- Correct or immediately report slip, trip and fall hazards
- Use proper ladders for assigned tasks

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Controls

Engineering Controls

- Proper construction of elevated locations
- Use of hand, knee, and toe rails where required
- Proper design of fixed ladders & stairs
- Adequate lighting in all areas

Administrative Controls

- Training for all employees who work at elevated locations
- Routine inspections of ladders, stairs, walking and working surfaces
- Following good housekeeping practices
- Immediate cleanup of material spills

Fall Protection

According to 29 CFR 1926 Subpart M, fall protection is required if the employee is working 6ft above an approved walking/working surface. The bottom of the employee's feet must be above the 6ft mark for this to take effect. Also, the employee must be exposed in a way that is outside the guarding requirements established in 29 CFR 1910 Subpart D. For greater specification on what are acceptable practices or equipment for harness, lanyards, anchoring, or any other fall protection related information, please [go to the OSHA standard](#).

Scaffolding

1. The footing or anchorage for scaffolds shall be sound, rigid and capable of carrying the maximum intended load without settling or displacement. Unstable objects, such as barrels, boxes, loose brick, or concrete blocks shall not be used to support scaffolds or planks.

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2. Scaffolds and their components shall be capable of supporting at least *four times* the maximum intended load.
3. Scaffolds shall be maintained in a safe condition and shall not be altered or moved horizontally while they are in use or occupied.
4. Damaged or weakened scaffolds shall be immediately repaired and shall not be used until repairs have been completed.
5. A safe means must be provided to gain access to the working platform level through the use of a ladder, ramp, etc.
6. Overhead protection must be provided for personnel on a scaffold exposed to overhead hazards.
7. Guardrails, midrails, and toeboards must be installed on all open sides and ends of platforms more than 10 feet above the ground or floor. Wire mesh must be installed between the toeboard and the guardrail along the entire opening, where persons are required to work or pass under the scaffolds.
8. Employees shall not work on scaffolds during storms or high winds or when covered with ice or snow.
9. As noted earlier, there are a number of scaffold types, and OSHA code 1910.28 should be reviewed carefully for special requirements that apply to each type. OSHA codes are available at the [OSHA web site](http://www.osha-slc.gov) or from EHS/RMS (<http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/EHSRMS/ehspersonnel.cfm>)