

**OSHA 1926.500,
SubPart M
(Fall Protection)**

This document contains extracts from OSHA Standard 1926.500 (Fall Protection) relating to fall protection anchors. This subpart sets forth requirements and criteria for fall protection in construction workplaces and directs the reader to other 500 series standards governing the requirements of employers to provide fall protection systems near the edges of roofs or other walking/working surfaces.

The standard is one of several OSHA standards governing window cleaning and other suspended maintenance operations; the others are OSHA 1910.28, SubPart D (Walking-Working Surfaces), OSHA 1910.66, SubPart F (Powered Platforms), CAL OSHA, Title 8, Section 3291 (f), Article 5. Window Cleaning (General Industry Safety Order, California Code of Regulations), and Department of Labor Memorandum to Regional Administrators for Descent Control Devices.

PARAGRAPH REFERENCE	REQUIREMENT
1926.501 General (b) (1) Holes (b) (4) (i) (b) (1)	<p>"Unprotected sides and edges." Each employee on a walking/working surface (horizontal and vertical surface) with an unprotected side or edge which is 6 feet (1.8 m) or more above a lower level shall be protected from falling by the use of guardrail systems, safety net systems, or personal fall arrest systems.</p> <p>Each employee on walking/working surfaces shall be protected from falling through holes (including skylights) more than 6 feet (1.8 m) above lower levels, by personal fall arrest systems, covers, or guardrail systems erected around such holes.</p>
196.502 Personal Fall Arrest systems (d) (15)	<p>Anchorage used for attachment of personal fall arrest equipment shall be independent of any anchorage being used to support or suspend platforms and capable of supporting at least 5,000 pounds (22.2 kN) per employee attached, or shall be designed, installed, and used as follows:</p> <p>(d) (15) (i) as part of a complete personal fall arrest system which maintains a safety factor of at least two; and</p> <p>(d) (15) (ii) under the supervision of a qualified person.</p> <p>(d) (16) Personal fall arrest systems, when stopping a fall, shall:</p> <p>(d) (16) (i) limit maximum arresting force on an employee to 900 pounds (4 kN) when used with a body belt;</p> <p>(d) (16) (ii) limit maximum arresting force on an employee to 1,800 pounds (8 kN) when used with a body harness;</p>

(d) (16) (iii)

be rigged such that an employee can neither free fall more than 6 feet (1.8 m), nor contact any lower level;

(d) (19)

Personal fall arrest systems and components subjected to impact loading shall be immediately removed from service and shall not be used again for employee protection until inspected and determined by a competent person to be undamaged and suitable for reuse.

(d) (21)

Personal fall arrest systems shall be inspected prior to each use for wear, damage and other deterioration, and defective components shall be removed from service.

End