and shall provide a minimum 42 inches (1067 mm) measured diagonally between the top of the rail and the *nosing* of the nearest tread.

**1028.15 Bench seating.** Where bench seating is used, the number of persons shall be based on one person for each 18 inches (457 mm) of length of the bench.

## SECTION 1029 EMERGENCY ESCAPE AND RESCUE

**1029.1 General.** In addition to the *means of egress* required by this chapter, provisions shall be made for emergency escape and rescue in Group R and I-1 occupancies. Basements and sleeping rooms below the fourth *story above grade plane* shall have at least one exterior *emergency escape and rescue opening* in accordance with this section. Where basements contain one or more sleeping rooms, *emergency escape and rescue openings* shall be required in each sleeping room, but shall not be required in adjoining areas of the basement. Such openings shall open directly into a *public way* or to a *yard* or *court* that opens to a *public way*.

## **Exceptions:**

- 1. In other than Group R-3 occupancies, buildings equipped throughout with an *approved automatic sprinkler system* in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.
- 2. In other than Group R-3 occupancies, sleeping rooms provided with a door to a fire-resistance-rated *corridor* having access to two remote *exits* in opposite directions.
- 3. The *emergency escape and rescue opening* is permitted to open onto a balcony within an *atrium* in accordance with the requirements of Section 404, provided the balcony provides access to an *exit* and the dwelling unit or sleeping unit has a *means of egress* that is not open to the *atrium*.
- 4. Basements with a ceiling height of less than 80 inches (2032 mm) shall not be required to have emergency escape and rescue windows.
- 5. High-rise buildings in accordance with Section 403.
- 6. Emergency escape and rescue openings are not required from basements or sleeping rooms that have an exit door or exit access door that opens directly into a public way or to a yard, court or exterior exit balcony that opens to a public way.
- 7. Basements without *habitable spaces* and having no more than 200 square feet (18.6 m<sup>2</sup>) in floor area shall not be required to have emergency escape windows.

**1029.2 Minimum size.** *Emergency escape and rescue openings* shall have a minimum net clear opening of 5.7 square feet  $(0.53 \text{ m}^2)$ .

**Exception:** The minimum net clear opening for *emergency escape and rescue* grade-floor *openings* shall be 5 square feet (0.46 m<sup>2</sup>).

**1029.2.1 Minimum dimensions.** The minimum net clear opening height dimension shall be 24 inches (610 mm). The minimum net clear opening width dimension shall be 20 inches (508 mm). The net clear opening dimensions shall be the result of normal operation of the opening.