



# Fall Prevention in Construction

## FALLS REMAIN THE LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH IN CONSTRUCTION

In 2012 there were 775 total fatalities in construction.  
Two hundred sixty nine (269) of these fatalities were due to falls.

## Falls can be prevented

Construction employees exposed to an unprotected side or edge which is 6 feet or more above a lower level shall be protected from falling by and trained in the use of:

### Guardrail System



### Safety Net System



### Personal Fall Arrest System



Thinking about fall hazards before the work begins will help employers to manage fall hazards and focus attention on prevention efforts. If personal fall protection systems are used, particular attention should be given to identifying attachment points and to ensuring that employees know how to properly use and inspect the equipment. Training employees on the proper use of fall protection is critical. Training resources can be found by contacting the fall protection manufacturer and by visiting:

**[osha.gov/SLTC/fallprotection/evaluation.html](http://osha.gov/SLTC/fallprotection/evaluation.html)**



## PLAN. PROVIDE. TRAIN.

*Three simple steps to preventing falls.*

The Department of Labor Standards offers free consultation services designed to help municipal and private employers recognize and control safety and health hazards at their worksites, improve safety and health programs, and assist in training employees.

**If you would like to learn more about our free consultation services, please call us at 508-616-0461**

For additional resources or to contact DLS, visit: [mass.gov/info-details/safetyworks](http://mass.gov/info-details/safetyworks)