

Supported Scaffold Local Law 52 Fact Sheet

We're Dedicated to Safety!

Local Law 52 requires a permit for any supported scaffold that is forty feet (40') or more in height. The Department will investigate work sites to check whether permits and certificates are available at the site. Local Law 52 of 2005 will help in promote the safety of workers at the site.

What does the new Law require?

- Effective November 20, 2006 a permit must be obtained for any supported scaffolding that is forty feet (40 feet) or more in height. Previously the height was seventy five feet (75 feet) or more.
- A supported scaffold certificate of completion must be obtained by anyone who puts up, takes down, repairs, maintains or modifies a supported scaffold.
- A supported scaffold user certificate must be obtained by anyone using a supported scaffold.
- The certificates must be available to Department personnel on request.

Who does the new Rule apply to?

Any person who will put up, take down, repair, maintain, modify or use a supported scaffold (40 feet or more high), or will knowingly permit or cause someone to do so.

What are the training requirements for those who install or dismantle supported scaffold?

- No individual may erect, dismantle, repair, maintain or modify a supported scaffold that is 40 feet or more in height, or knowingly permit or cause an individual to do so without a supported scaffold certificate of completion
- A certificate of completion can only be obtained from OSHA, an OSHA-trained or certified provider, or a provider of a training program or course regarding scaffold safety that has been reviewed by the New York City Department of Buildings
- If the training course or program was completed more than two (2) years ago, an eight- (8) hour scaffold safety and training refresher program or course is required

Who is required to have a supported scaffold certificate of completion?

Anyone installing, dismantling, repairing, maintaining or modifying supported scaffolds.

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What are the training requirements for users of supported scaffolds?

- No individual may use a supported scaffold without a scaffold user certificate
- A user certificate must be obtained from OSHA, an OSHA-trained or certified provider, or a provider of a four- (4) hour training course that has been reviewed by the New York City Department of Buildings

How will I know which provider/vendor/company the Department has reviewed?

The Department has reviewed a number of courses and has posted the ones that were found in keeping with the intent of the law on our website, www.nyc.gov/buildings.

Who is exempt from the requirements pertaining to Local Law 52 of 2005?

Public utility employees performing work for the utility company on a supported scaffold, provided the utility has a safety program for those employees, or that the employees who use the scaffold are trained to recognize and control any hazards related to the scaffold

Are there exceptions to the Law?

Yes, there are:

- Putting up, taking down, repairing, maintaining or modifying:
 - Any supported scaffold where the work is done by employees of a public utility and
 - The scaffold is located inside a building or structure owned or operated by the utility and
 - The utility has a safety training program for employees who perform this work.
- Use of a supported scaffold by public utility employees if the employees are trained to recognize and control any hazards related to the scaffolds.
- Stand alone, one story sidewalk sheds.

What are the repercussions if the certificate cannot be produced upon request?

A violation may be written.

For more information, see Local Law 52 of 2005, available online at www.nyc.gov/buildings.