City of Arkansas City, Kansas Neighborhood Services Phone: 620-441-4420 Fax: 620-441-4403 Stairway, Handrail, & Guardrail Requirements

- 1. Handrails-All stairways with four or more risers shall have handrails. Stairways within a dwelling and less than 44" in width may only have one handrail. Height of handrails shall be 34"-38" above nosing of treads and landings.
- 2. Guardrails-Unclosed floor and roof openings, open and glazed sides of stairways, landings, ramps, balconies, and porches, which are more than 30" above grade or floor below and roofs used for other than service of building shall be protected by a guardrail. (A) Height of guardrail shall be 42" except within individual dwelling units which may be a minimum of 34". (B) Open guardrails shall have intermediate rails or an ornamental pattern such that a sphere 4" in diameter cannot pass through.
- 3. Stairway-Stairways in dwellings shall not be less than 36" in width.
- 4. For requirements of spiral stairs, winders and circular stairs see section 1003 of International Building Code

