

FAQ:

What are the height and area limitations for rooftop structures?

Background:

[Table 14-701-6](#) of the Philadelphia Zoning Code identifies allowable exceptions to dimensional standards set forth in the base zoning districts and overlays.

This table includes specific height, setback, and area exceptions for roof decks with associated railings, fencing, and access structures complying with the requirements of [Section 14-604\(5\)](#), mechanical rooms, and stair towers based upon the district. [Section 14-604-5](#) further expands upon the specific allowances and limitations for decks, railings, and access structures.

Answer:

A rooftop structure, including canopies, pergolas and solar panels, must meet the height, area, and setback requirements of the base zoning district and any applicable overlays unless [Table 14-701-6](#) of the Philadelphia Zoning Code includes a specific exception for the appurtenance.

Questions?

Call 311 or (215) 686-8686 (if outside Philadelphia) or submit a permit-related question online via www.phila.gov/li/get-help.

Disclaimer:

This interpretation, policy or code application is intended to provide guidance to staff for consistency of review and is subject to change without notice. Application of this interpretation, policy or code application to specific projects may vary. There may be other ways to comply with the Code. If so, you are not required to use this method. You may want to investigate other options or consult with a professional identifying an equally code compliant solution.