

Poway Unified School District
Department of Risk Management, Safety, and Insurance

**SAFETY STANDARDS FOR
ROCK WALLS / CLIMBING WALLS**

Rock walls have become very popular for entertainment, challenge, and fundraising at PUSD extracurricular events and private group activities. To maximize safety and minimize legal liability, the following standards and procedures are required for these devices used by District programs as well as private groups using District property.

Summary of Major Safety Engineering Requirements

- Auto belay only-no manual belay permitted.
- Wire rope safety line.
- Self-locking carabineers and snaphooks.
- Body harness required (pelvic and waist support minimum) – no body belts or saddle harnesses.

Advance Notice

Advise the Risk Management Department of your intent to use a rock wall before signing an agreement with the company or making any commitments. We will verify compliance with current safety standards. We would appreciate at least two weeks advance notice.

Insurance and Facility Use Permits

The PUSD Facilities Department receives applications for use of District property and will inform you about insurance and permit requirements. Certificates of Insurance must name PUSD as an Additional Insured and provide an Endorsement to confirm this.

Equipment Safety Labeling and Supervision Standards

All equipment items must be labeled as compliant with ANSI Standard Z359.1 (American National Standards Institute), or ASTM Standard F887-04 (American Society for Testing and Materials), whichever is more stringent, and be inspected by the owner daily. Alternatively, the written opinion of a civil, mechanical, or structural engineer licensed in California may suffice. The term “Equipment” includes lifelines, belay systems, harnesses, lanyards, anchorages, and connecting hardware.

Supervision must be provided by company staff as opposed to students, volunteers, or school employees.

You must observe the company’s age guidelines for climbers.

Please contact Risk Management at 858-748-0010, ext. 2210 if you need more information.