

School swimming pool safety checklist

Risk Control services
from Liberty Mutual Insurance



This checklist can help you assess areas of risk, existing controls, and some key elements of your swimming pool facility management program.

Evaluate each item by answering Yes, No, or Not Applicable (N/A). After the review, assess the No items to identify improvement opportunities. Consider adding any missing elements to your program if it does not include the items covered in the checklist.

This is not an all-inclusive list and may not address all potential situations that may cause injury or harm. Public swimming pool operators and facilities must adhere to federal, state, and local regulations. Use the Comments section at the end to add additional elements unique to your swimming pool safety program.

Facility

The facility has proper signage that is clearly visible.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

The facility has adequate surfacing to reduce slip and fall incidents in and around the pool.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

The facility has all proper first aid lifeguarding equipment.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Lifesaving equipment is readily accessible in the event of an emergency.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Periodic inspections of the facility and its equipment are conducted.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Inspections are thorough, adequate, and documented.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

The facility receives proper and needed maintenance and repairs.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

The facility has the proper policy and procedures in place for facility use, including codes of conduct.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

The facility is always locked and secured when not in use.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Facility is compliant with federal, state and local pool codes and regulations, including ADA, and Virginia Graeme Baker legislation.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Staff/Lifeguards

The facility management and staff are aware of appropriate federal, state and local regulations concerning swimming pools and pool facility management.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Faculty, staff, and employees are properly trained.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Ongoing training and educational meetings for facility employees and staff is current, conducted regularly, and documented.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Lifeguards are properly trained in the use of the facility.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Lifeguards are positioned correctly for the best visibility.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

The facility has the appropriate number of lifeguards on duty at all times.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Assigned pool lifeguards are not given other duties when pool is open.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Pool

Pool depth markings are clearly visible.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

The pool water is clean and clear.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

The pool bottom and drains are clearly visible.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Pool chemicals are stored in a safe, secured place.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Proper pool maintenance is ongoing.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Operations

Operations, maintenance logs, and records are in place and up to date.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Swimming pool/facility emergencies are considered and are part of the school emergency crisis plan.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

All accidents and incidents are investigated.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Liability

An inspection program is in place when students use another facility.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

If other entities are allowed to use the facility, the proper facility and use agreements are executed, including requiring that the school be listed as an additional insured under the other policies.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Comments

Additional resources

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2016) *12 Steps for prevention of recreational water illnesses*. <http://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/swimming/pools/twelve-steps-for-prevention-rwi.html>

CDC. (2018). *Healthy swimming*. <http://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/swimming/>

CDC. (2018). *Model aquatic health code (MAHC): an all-inclusive model public swimming pool and spa code*. <https://www.cdc.gov/mahc/index.html>

CDC. (2016). *State-based healthy swimming information*.
<https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/swimming>



The illustrations, instructions, and principles contained in the material are general in scope and, to the best of our knowledge, current at the time of publication. Our risk control services are advisory only. We assume no responsibility for: managing or controlling customer safety activities, implementing any recommended corrective measures, or identifying all potential hazards. No attempt has been made to interpret any referenced codes, standards, or regulations. Please refer to the appropriate government authority for interpretation or clarification.
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