

Protocols for Public Swimming Pools: Appendix K

Recent Updates:

- 5/5/21 – This protocol is effective as of May 5, 2021. Los Angeles County, including Long Beach, is subject to the Yellow Tier under the State’s Blueprint to a Safer Economy. Indoor swimming pools, spas, hot tubs, saunas, and steam rooms may reopen at 50% indoor capacity. All indoor and outdoor spas, hot tubs, saunas, steam rooms, and splash pads may operate.
- Indoor pools, spas, hot tubs, saunas, and steam rooms may increase their indoor capacity up to a maximum of 75% of total venue capacity where all attendees are either fully vaccinated or attendees show proof of a negative COVID-19 test conducted 72 hours prior to attendance in accordance with the requirements in the Blueprint for a Safer Economy Chart which may be found at https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Dimmer-Framework-September_2020.pdf
- Changes highlighted in yellow.

The requirements below apply to all public swimming pools. Public swimming pools include campground pools, club pools, commercial pools, health or fitness clubs, hotel pools, licensed day care facility pools, medical facility pools, mineral spring pools, motel pools, municipal pools, public or private school pools; recreational or mobile home park pools, resort pools, special purpose pools, residential facilities and swim school pools. This does not apply to pools located at single family dwellings. In addition to the conditions imposed on pools by the State Health Officer for fitness facilities and gyms, which may be found at <https://covid19.ca.gov/industry-guidance/>. This protocol must be implemented and posted prior to the opening a pool.

Outdoor and indoor pools, spas, hot tubs, saunas, steam rooms, and splash pads (“pools”) may operate. Drowning prevention classes, including swim lessons with certified instructors, are permitted indoors and outdoors. Occupancy of pools must be limited to 50% of maximum capacity.

Indoor pools, spas, hot tubs, saunas, and steam rooms may increase their indoor capacity up to a maximum of 75% of total venue capacity where all attendees are either fully vaccinated or attendees show proof of a negative COVID-19 test conducted 72 hours prior to attendance in accordance with the requirements in the Blueprint for a Safer Economy Chart which may be found at https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Dimmer-Framework-September_2020.pdf

Residential Swimming Pools (i.e. apartment house pools, bed and breakfast inn pools, condominium pools, homeowner association pools) are required to adhere to these protocols to the extent feasible.

Please note: This document may be updated as additional information and resources become available so be sure to check the Long Beach COVID-19 website at www.longbeach.gov/covid19 regularly for any updates to this document.

This checklist covers:

- (1) Measures to ensure physical distancing
- (2) Measures to ensure infection control
- (3) Communication with employees and the public
- (4) Measures to ensure equitable access to critical services

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All facilities with a swimming pool must implement all applicable measures listed below and be prepared to explain why any measure that is not implemented is not applicable.

Business Name:	
Facility Address:	

A. WORKPLACE POLICIES AND PRACTICES TO PROTECT EMPLOYEE HEALTH (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO THE FACILITY)

- Everyone who can carry out their work duties from home has been directed to do so.
- Vulnerable staff (those above age 65, those with chronic health conditions) are assigned work that can be done from home whenever possible.
- All employees have been told not to come to work if sick and to follow Long Beach Health Orders for self-isolation if applicable.
 - Create a roster of trained back-up employees.
 - Information on employer or government-sponsored leave benefits the employee may be entitled to receive that would make it financially easier to stay at home has been provided to employees. See additional information on government [programs](#) supporting sick leave and worker's compensation for COVID19, including employee's sick leave rights under the [Families First Coronavirus Response Act](#) and employee's rights to workers' compensation benefits and presumption of the work-relatedness of COVID-19 exposures occurring between March 19 and July 5 pursuant to the Governor's [Executive Order N-62-20](#).
- Upon being informed that one or more employees test positive for, or has symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (case), the employer has a plan or protocol in place to have the case(s) isolate themselves at home and require the immediate self-quarantine of all employees that had a workplace exposure to the case(s). The employer's plan should consider a protocol for all quarantined employees to have access to or be tested for COVID-19 in order to determine whether there have been additional workplace exposures, which may require additional COVID-19 control measures.
- In the event that 3 or more cases are identified within the workplace within a span of 14 days the employer should report this cluster to the Long Beach Department Health and Human Services at 562-570-INFO.
- Symptom checks are conducted before employees may enter the workspace. Checks must include a check-in concerning cough, shortness of breath or fever and any other symptoms the employee may be experiencing. These checks can be done remotely or in person upon the employees' arrival. A temperature check should also be done at the worksite if feasible.
- All employees who have contact with the public or other employees during their shift (s) are offered, at no cost, a cloth face covering. The covering is to be worn by the employee at all times during the workday except where the employee is working in a vehicle, office, or room alone. Employees who have been instructed by their medical provider that they should not wear a face covering should wear a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge, to be in compliance with State directives, as long as their condition permits it. A drape that is form fitting under the chin is preferred. Masks with one-way valves should not be used. Employees are instructed to wash their face coverings daily.
 - Employees need not wear a cloth face covering when the employee is entering the water.*
- Lifeguards who are actively lifeguarding are not also expected to monitor handwashing, use of cloth face coverings, or social distancing of others

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- Designate another employee to monitor implementation of social distancing protocols. All employees should know who this person is and how to contact that person.
- Breaks are staggered to ensure that six (6) feet between employees can be maintained in break rooms at all times.
- Employees are prohibited from eating or drinking anywhere other than designated areas to assure that masks are worn consistently and correctly.
- Disinfectant and related supplies are available to employees at the following location(s):

- Hand sanitizer effective against COVID-19 is available to all employees at the following location(s):

- Employees are allowed frequent breaks to wash their hands.
- A copy of this protocol has been distributed to each employee.
- Optional – Describe other measures:

B. MEASURES TO ENSURE PHYSICAL DISTANCING AND HYGIENE

- Limited use of pool facility of public pools to ensure that pool users can maintain 6 feet physical distance from those they do not live with.
 - Indicate current pool user capacity:
 - Indicate physically distanced user capacity:
 - Consider implementing reservations for pool use. This could include reserving full lanes for individual lap swimming and half-lanes for individual household use.
 - Lap swimmers should be reminded to maintain 6 feet physical distance from those they do not live with. It may be necessary to limit the number of swimmers that may use a lane for lap swimming at any given time so that swimmers can maintain a safe distance.
- Shared residential pool capacity is limited to 10 people in the pool at any one time, and not to exceed the current maximum occupancy of the pool.
- No large groups or pool parties allowed. Members of from the same household may remain together.
- Implement scheduled time slots for use on the busiest days to control the flow of users.
- Close the hot tubs, splash pads, saunas, and steam rooms, except those located in a single-family residence, which shall be used only by members of the household residing at the single-family residence.
- Water parks remain closed.
- Use of spray grounds and water features are allowed if physical distancing can be maintained by all users that are not part of the same household.
- Lounge chairs and/or tables should be properly distanced of a minimum of 6ft from each other. If they cannot be distanced, they should be secured and stored.
- Remind pool/ pool area users to wear a cloth face covering when traveling through common areas of the property where it may not be possible to maintain physical distancing, including to and from the pool and shared restrooms.
- Provide hand sanitizer to pool area users or access to hand-washing facilities.
- Frequently check shared restrooms to ensure they are stocked with hand soap and paper towels.

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- Changing rooms and restrooms should be monitored to ensure that the number of people inside at one time allows for proper social distancing. Changing rooms (not restrooms) may need to be closed or have limited access to achieve proper social distancing.
- When feasible, it is recommended that swim lesson and group activity instructors teach (e.g. fitness classes) from the pool deck. For those swim classes that require face-to-face or close contact, use a parent or member of the same household to be in the water with the child, or have the swim instructor wear a face covering and work with the student in a one-on-one capacity. Participants of group swimming lessons, group fitness classes, and spectators on the pool deck should always maintain social distancing of six feet.
- Use of indoor pools are allowed if indoor ventilation systems are operating properly. In addition to the ventilation system, increasing the introduction and circulation of outdoor air by opening windows and doors is recommended as long as this does not pose a safety risk to children, staff, or pool/pool area users

C. MEASURES TO ENSURE DISINFECTION

- Create a written disinfection plan that identifies frequently touched surfaces, which must include a schedule and designated person to complete disinfection tasks.
- At locations with no onsite person to monitor disinfection efforts, provide disinfection wipes that the pool/pool area users can use to disinfect common touchpoints before and after use, with written instructions posted instruct pool/pool area users to do so.
- Use an EPA approved disinfectant on commonly touched surfaces, including but not limited to:
 - Pool Area - gate, latch, tables, chairs, , pool handrails, and countertops
 - Shared Restroom - door handles, light switches, faucets, latches, and dispensers
 - Pool – kick boards, floatation devices, slides

D. MEASURES FOR INFECTION CONTROL

- Visitors arriving at the pool are required to wear a face covering at all times (except while eating or drinking, if applicable) while at the pool or on the grounds of the facility. This applies to all adults and to children 2 years of age and older. Only individuals who have been instructed not to wear a face covering by their medical provider are exempt from wearing one. To support the safety of your employees and other visitors, a face covering should be made available to visitors who arrive without them.
- Symptom checks are conducted before visitors may enter the facility. Checks must include a check-in concerning cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing and fever or chills. These checks can be done in person or through alternative methods such as on-line check in systems or through signage posted at the entrance to the facility stating that visitors with these symptoms should not enter the premises.
- Conduct a pool safety check to ensure pool chemistry is adequate for disinfection and that the pool has been evaluated for safety equipment.
 - Proper operation and maintenance should inactivate virus in the water.
 - Consult with the company or engineer that designed the aquatic venue to decide which [List N disinfectants approved by the EPA](#) are best for the aquatic venue.
- For facilities that have not been operating, flush each of the hot and cold water fixtures for five minutes prior to reopening to replace stale water in the facility's plumbing with a fresh and safe water supply.
- Implement a cleaning and disinfection plan for frequently touched surfaces and for shared objects each time they are used. Use EPA approved disinfectant. The following will be cleaned and disinfected frequently, on the following schedule:
 - Handrails and slides _____
 - Lounge chairs, tabletops _____
 - Door handles and surfaces of restrooms, handwashing stations, diaper changing stations and showers _____

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- Kick boards and pool noodles _____
 - Common-use facilities (i.e. lockers) _____
 - Restrooms and showers _____
 - Other _____
- Guests and pool users must wear cloth face covering when in the pool facility, including to and from the pool and use of shared facilities.
 - Ensure adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene are provided at all times. Supplies include soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, paper towels, tissues and trash cans
 - Set up a system so that furniture (e.g. lounge chairs) or other common-use items that need to be cleaned and disinfected are kept separate from already cleaned and disinfected furniture or other shared common-use items.
 - Ensure shared furniture, equipment, towels are protected from being contaminated before use.
 - Drinking fountains are covered to prevent usage.
 - Discourage pool users from sharing items, particularly those that are difficult to clean and disinfect or those that are meant to come in contact with the face (e.g. goggles, nose clips, and snorkels).
 - Ensure that the facility has adequate equipment for pool users, such as kick boards, pool noodles, and other floatation devices, to minimize sharing wherever possible. Limit the use to one user at a time and clean and disinfect the items after each use.
 - Individuals are encouraged to bring their own towels to the pool and should not share towels with those outside of their household.
 - Launder towels according to the manufacturer's instructions. Use the warmest appropriate water temperature and dry items completely.

E. MEASURES THAT COMMUNICATE TO THE PUBLIC

- A copy of this protocol is posted at all public entrances.
- Post signage reminding residents to wash their hands frequently with soap and water, cover coughs and sneezes.
- Posting a sign at the entrance of the facility informing all that they should: (1) avoid entering the facility if they are experiencing symptoms of respiratory illness, including cough, fever, or other symptoms that could be COVID-19; (2) to maintain a minimum six-foot distance from non-household members to the extent possible and not to engage in any unnecessary physical contact in the pool; (3) sneeze and cough into one's elbow; (4) not shake hands or engage in any unnecessary physical contact; (4) wash hands often or use sanitizer upon entry into the pool facility.

F. MEASURES THAT ENSURE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO CRITICAL SERVICES

- Services that are critical to the patrons/residents have been prioritized.
- Measures are instituted to assure access to goods and services for those who have mobility limitations and/or are at high risk in public spaces.

Any additional measures not included above should be listed on separate

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**pages, which the business should
attach to this document.**

**You may contact the following person
with any questions or comments about
this protocol:**

**Business
Contact Name:**

Phone number:

**Date Last
Revised:**

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