

MINIMUM CODE REQUIREMENTS FOR PRIVATE SWIMMING POOLS & SPAS

This list is a guide for *minimum* requirements per Kern County Code of Building Regulations (KCCBR), Health and Safety Code (HSC), 2021 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC), 2022 CA Building Code (CRC), 2022 CA Mechanical Code, 2022 CA Plumbing Code, 2022 CA Electrical Code, and the 2022 CA Energy Code (CEC). It is not intended as an all-inclusive list of applicable code requirements.

• Per HSC §115922 (Pool and Spa Safety Act of 2006), and as amended by KCCBR, whenever a construction permit is issued for construction of a new swimming pool or spa, or any building permit is issued for remodeling of an existing pool or spa, at a private, single-family home, it shall be equipped with at least <u>two</u> of the following items: 1) An enclosure that meets the requirements of §115923 and ISPSC § 305.2 and isolates the pool or spa from the private single-family home. 2) Mesh pool fencing per ISPSC § 305.2.4 and that meets ASTM F2286 standards in conjunction with a gate that is self-closing and self-latching and can accommodate a key lockable device. 3) An approved safety pool cover that meets ASTM F1346 and as defined in subdivision (d) of § 115921. 4) The residence shall be equipped with exit alarms on those doors providing direct access to the pool. 5) All doors providing direct access from the home to the swimming pool shall be equipped with a self-closing, self-latching device with a release mechanism placed no lower than 54 inches above the floor. 6) Swimming pool alarms that, when placed in pools, will sound upon detection of accidental or unauthorized entrance into the water. Such alarms shall meet and be independently certified to the ASTM F2208. • Per HSC §115928, whenever a building permit is issued for the construction of a new swimming pool or spa, it shall meet <u>all</u> of the following requirements: 1) a) The suction outlet of the pool or spa for which the permit is issued shall be equipped to provide circulation throughout the pool; or b) The swimming pool or spa shall have at least two circulation drains per pump that shall be hydraulically balanced and symmetrically plumbed through one or more "T" fittings, and that are separated by a distance of at least three feet in any dimension between the drains. c) The circulation system shall have the capacity to provide a complete turnover of pool water, as specified in § 3124B of Chapter 31B of the 2022 CBC 2) Suction outlets shall be covered with antientrapment grates, as specified in the ANSI/APSP-16 performance standard, that cannot be removed except with the use of tools. Slots or openings in the grates or similar protective devices shall be of a shape, area, and arrangement that would prevent physical entrapment and would not pose any suction hazard to bathers. 3) Any backup safety system that an owner of a new swimming pool or spa may choose to install in addition to the requirements set forth in subdivisions (a) and (b) shall meet the standards as published in the document, "Guidelines for Entrapment Hazards: Making Pools and Spas Safer," Publication Number 363, March 2005, United States Consumer Product Safety Commission. 4) Whenever a building permit is issued for the remodel	or modification of an existing swimming pool, toddler pool, or spa, the permit shall require that the suction outlet(s) of the existing swimming pool, toddler pool, or spa shall be upgraded so as to be equipped with an antientrapment grates, as specified in the ANSI/APSP-16 performance standard or a successor standard designated by the federal CPSC • Per CBC §3109.2-115932, Pool enclosures shall be in accordance with the following requirements: 1) Enclosures shall be a minimum height of 60 inches. 2) Access gates through the enclosure shall open away from the swimming pool and are self-closing with a self-latching device placed no lower than 60 inches above the ground. 3) Two (2") inches maximum vertical clearance from the ground to the bottom of the enclosure. 4) The maximum open space for gaps or voids in any enclosure shall not allow passage of a sphere equal to or greater than 4 inches in diameter. 5) The outside surface of an enclosure shall be free of protrusions, cavities or other physical characteristics that would serve as handholds or foot-holds that could enable a child below the age of five years to climb over. • Per CRC §R308.4.5, glazing in walls and fences used as the barrier for indoor and outdoor swimming pools and spas must be safety glazing if the bottom edge of the glazing is less than 60 inches above the pool side of the glazing and within 5 feet of the pool or spa water's edge. • Swimming pools and spas shall conform to Article 680 of the latest edition of California Electric Code. • Per CEC §110.4, the following are mandatory measures for installed pool and spa heating system and equipment (Note: Please see code exceptions for solar energy): 1) A thermal efficiency that complies with the Appliance Efficiency Regulations, on-off switch mounted outside of the heater, weatherproof operating instructions, no electric resistance heating and no pilot light. 2) System is installed with a) at least 36 inches of pipe between filter and heater for future solar heating, b) cover for outdoor pools and spas. 3) Pool system has directional inlets and a circulation pump time switch. • Pump sizing and flow rate including system piping shall comply with the requirements of CEC §150.0(p). • Permit applicant shall complete and submit CF2R-PLB-03-E form with permit application. • Inspection will be required for swimming pools for each of the following phases: 1) Prior to concrete placement (gunite). 2) Prior to plaster. All required safety features shall be permanently installed prior to this inspection. 3) Final inspection. • Per CBC §3109.2-115924, any person entering into an agreement to build a swimming pool or spa, or to engage in permitted work on a pool or spa, shall give the consumer notice of the requirements of pool safety information pursuant to existing law. Refer to this section for more information.
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• Per ISPCS § 305.1.1, the construction sites for in-ground swimming pools and spas shall be provided with construction fencing to surround the site from the time that any excavation occurs up to the time that the permanent barrier is completed. The fencing shall be not less than 4 feet in height. • Per ISPCS § 305.2, Outdoor pools and spas and indoor swimming pools shall be surrounded by a barrier that complies with all of the following: 1) The top of the barrier shall be not less than 60 inches above grade. Such height shall exist around the entire perimeter of the barrier and for a distance of 3 feet measured horizontally from the outside of the required barrier. 2) The vertical clearance between grade and the bottom of the barrier shall not exceed 2 inches for grade surfaces that are not solid, such as grass or gravel, where measured on the side of the barrier that faces away from the pool or spa. 3) The vertical clearance between a surface below the barrier to a solid surface, such as concrete, and the bottom of the required barrier shall not exceed 4 inches where measured on the side of the required barrier that faces away from the pool or spa. 4) Where the top of the pool or spa structure is above grade, the barrier shall be installed on grade or shall be mounted on top of the pool or spa structure. Where the barrier is mounted on the top of the pool or spa, the vertical clearance between the top of the pool or spa and the bottom of the barrier shall not exceed 4 inches • Per ISPCS § 305.2.4, Mesh fences, other than chain link fences in accordance with § 305.2.7, shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and shall comply with the following: 1) The bottom of the mesh fence shall be not more than 1 inch above the deck or installed surface or grade. 2) The maximum vertical clearance from the bottom of the mesh fence and the solid surface shall not permit the fence to be lifted more than 4 inches from grade or decking. 3) The fence shall be designed and constructed so that it does not allow passage of a 4-inch sphere under any mesh panel. The maximum vertical clearance from the bottom of the mesh fence and the solid surface shall be not greater than 4 inches from grade or decking. 4) An attachment device shall attach each barrier section at a height not lower than 45 inches above grade. Common attachment devices include, but are not limited to, devices that provide the security equal to or greater than that of a hook-and-eye-type latch incorporating a spring-actuated retaining lever such as a safety gate hook. 5) Where a hinged gate is used with a mesh fence, the gate shall comply with § 305.3 6) Patio deck sleeves such as vertical post receptacles that are not placed inside the patio surface shall be of a nonconductive material	7) Mesh fences shall not be installed on top of onground residential pools. • Per ISPCS § 305.3, Doors and gates in barriers shall comply with the following and shall be equipped to accommodate a locking device. 1) Doors and gates not intended for pedestrian use, such as utility or service door and gates, shall remain locked when not in use. 2) Double doors and gates or multiple doors and gates shall have not fewer than one leaf secured in place and the adjacent leaf shall be secured with a self-latching device. 3) For doors and gates in barriers, the door and gate latch release mechanisms shall be in accordance with the following: 1. Where door and gate latch release mechanisms are accessed from the outside of the barrier and are not of the self-locking type, such mechanism shall be located above the finish floor or ground surface in not less than 54 inches. 2. Where door and gate latch release mechanisms are of the self-locking type such as where the lock is operated by means of a key, an electronic opener or the entry of a combination into an integral combination lock, the lock operation control and latch release mechanism shall be located above the finished floor or ground surface at not greater than 54 inches. • Per ISPCS § 305.4, Where a wall of a dwelling or structure serves as part of the barrier and where doors, gates or windows provide direct access to the pool or spa through that wall, one of the following is required: 1) Operable windows having a sill height of less than 48 inches above the indoor finish floor, doors and gates shall have an alarm that produces an audible warning when the window, door or their screens are opened. 2) In dwellings not required to be Accessible units, Type A units or Type B units, the operable parts of the alarm deactivation switches shall be located at not less than 54 inches above finished floor. 3) In dwellings that are required to be Accessible units, Type A units or Type B units, the operable parts of the alarm deactivation switches shall be located not greater than 54 inches and not less than 48 inches above the finished floor. 4) A safety cover that is listed and labeled in accordance with ASTM F1346 is installed for the pools and spas. 5) An approved means of protection, such as self-closing doors with self-latching devices, is provided. Such means of protection shall provide a degree of protection that is not less than the protection afforded by Item 1 or 2. • Per KCCBR § 17.36.070, In the event of a conflict between the provisions of the California Swimming Pool Safety Act, the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code, 2021 Edition, the 2022 California Building Code, or the 2022 California Residential Code, the Building Official shall implement the most restrictive measures cited.
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By signing this form, I agree to comply with the Minimum Code Requirements for Private Swimming Pools & Spas.

Signature

of applicant: _____ Date: _____