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## Swimming Facility Guidelines

This document is intended to provide guidance for operating swimming facilities licensed by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). This includes, but is not limited to, swimming pools, water parks, splashpads, bathing beaches, spas, and whirlpools.

Swimming facilities licensed by IDPH may be opened with the following limits according to mitigations outlined in the Restore Illinois plan. However, ancillary accommodations (e.g. saunas, hot tubs, spas, whirlpools and steam rooms) should be closed at this time. Facilities should also consider limiting ticket sales to only patrons who reside in the same EMS Region as the facility’s location. The composition of each EMS Region and its Tier status may be found at the IDPH website at <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/regionmetrics?regionID=9>.

Facility	Phase 4	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
<b>Indoors</b>	50 bathers or 50% of facility capacity, with distanced groups	50 bathers or 50% of facility capacity, with distanced groups	25 bathers or 25% of facility capacity, with distanced groups	Pause operations
<b>Outdoors</b>				25 bathers or 25% of facility capacity, with distanced groups

When features exist that cause patrons to congregate, including but not limited to, water slides and lazy rivers, additional controls must be implemented to prevent the spread of disease. Written plans addressing such features shall be available for inspection by IDPH staff or any other duly authorized government agent. Such plans shall minimally include controls for maintaining social distancing while patrons wait for and use the feature(s), including but not limited to, using attendants to meter patrons queuing at features; utilizing markings, signage, and verbal advisories to maintain six foot social distancing before, during, and after using the feature; and providing sanitized (using listed and labeled products) rafts, tubes, or other “equipment” used by patrons.

Rafts, tubes, lounge chairs or other shared “equipment” must be sanitized between each use with a solution of at least 50 parts per million of an EPA approved sanitizing agent. Guidance for appropriate cleaning of frequently touched surfaces and shared objects can be found at:

[CDC Considerations for Public Pools, Hot Tubs, and Water Playgrounds](#)

Wave pools may be opened without the use of the wave generation equipment. Operators should limit group sizes to no more than the maximum capacity allowed according to mitigation level,

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allowing for social distancing where possible. For example, facilities in regions at Tier 2 should limit group sizes to no more than 25 people. However, multiple groups may be permitted if: facilities allow for social distancing of guests and employees; 30 feet of distancing is maintained between groups; and areas for each group are clearly marked to discourage interaction between groups.

Operators, employees, and customers should wear face coverings that completely cover their noses and mouths when not engaged in swimming activities (exceptions can be made for children younger than two years or people with medical conditions or disabilities that prevent them from safely wearing a face covering). Operators should encourage non-lifeguard employees and customers to refrain from shouting, singing, or chanting as much as possible. Operators should display signage at entry with guidelines for face coverings, social distancing, and cleaning protocols. Operators, employees, and customers should frequently wash their hands or use hand sanitizer. Operators, employees, and customers should adhere to social distancing where applicable. Operators should make employee and customer temperature checks required upon entry to the facility. **Operators should have in-person screenings of employees and customers upon entry into the swimming facility, and mid-shift screening of employees, to verify the absence of COVID-19 symptoms. Hand sanitizers shall be provided on the deck and in the bather preparation facility.**

If an employee does contract COVID-19, they should remain isolated at home for a minimum of 10 days after symptom onset OR until feverless and feeling well (without fever-reducing medication) for at least 72 hours OR until confirmed to not have COVID-19 via 2 negative COVID-19 tests in a row, with testing done at least 24 hours apart.

Operators should limit access to locker rooms whenever possible. Operators should encourage customers to arrive to and leave from the facility dressed for swimming, if possible. All individuals who enter a locker room should wear a face covering that completely covers their nose and mouth at all times. Operators should configure the space with signage, tape, and other markings to ensure all individuals can maintain at least six feet social distance at all times.

Showers and restrooms should be made available and should be cleaned and sanitized regularly. Operators should minimize face-to-face employee and customer interaction where possible. Operators should clean and sanitize lounge chairs, lounge areas, common areas, and frequently touched surfaces on a regular basis.

Swimming facilities licensed to serve food may do so consistent with Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) guidelines according to mitigations outlined in the Restore Illinois plan.



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Facility	Phase 4	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
<b>Indoors</b>	Seated service with food delivered to tables spaced at least 6 feet apart	Seated service limited to 25 guests or 25% of capacity per room, whichever is less	Pause service	Pause service
<b>Outdoors</b>		Seated service with food delivered to tables spaced at least 6 feet apart	Takeout and grab-and-go services	Takeout and grab-and-go services

**Additional Resources:**

[Considerations for Public Pools, Hot Tubs, and Water Playgrounds During COVID-19](#)

[CDC Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers](#)

[CDC Workplace Decision Tool](#)

[IDPH Testing Guidance](#)

[IDPH FAQs](#)

[Symptoms of Coronavirus](#)

[IDHR FAQ for Businesses Concerning Use of Face-Coverings During COVID-19](#)

[CDC Guidelines on Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#)

[CDC Guidance on Cleaning Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools, and Homes](#)

[EPA Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2](#)