

**Swimming Pools**  
**Attachment P**  
**Issued May 6, 2020**  
**Effective May 8, 2020**  
**Part of Phase II**

By: Governor Mike Dunleavy   
Commissioner Adam Crum Alaska Department of Health and Social Services  
Dr. Anne Zink Chief Medical Officer, State of Alaska

- I. Applicability:** This Attachment applies to pools and swim facilities, including facilities hosting swim clubs or teams, whether stand-alone or pools that are associated with a business offering other services (such as a gym or hotel).
- II. Pools can resume operations if they meet all of the following requirements:**
- a. Social Distancing:
- i. Each participant must be screened prior to entering the pool or locker room areas. No one can enter the pool or locker room areas who is exhibiting symptoms, or who has knowingly been in contact with a suspected positive case of COVID-19 within the past 14 days.
  - ii. No participant may use the facility or join an outdoor swim activity within 72 hours of exhibiting a fever.
  - iii. This screening, where reasonably feasible, should be conducted electronically, in advance. If the screening is in person, pens and touch screens must be sanitized before and after each use.
  - iv. No observers are allowed at practices or indoor events, except for parents or guardians.
  - v. Parents or Guardians should maintain a six-foot distance from other non-household parents or guardians while at practices or indoor events.
  - vi. It is strongly suggested that cloth face coverings be worn by all patrons and employees, except when in the water.
  - vii. Regular social distancing of six feet (except by household members), and hygiene protocols under (b) below, should be followed by staff and patrons.
  - viii. Where possible, 10-foot social distancing by non-household members should be maintained while swimming laps or otherwise exercising in the pool.
  - ix. Avoid congregating on the deck of the pool or other common areas.
  - x. Occupancy of the actual pool must not exceed 50 percent maximum pool occupancy, as allowed by law.
  - xi. Entryway signage must notify the public of the business's COVID-19 Mitigation Plan and clearly state that any person with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 may not enter the premises.
- b. Hygiene Protocols:
- i. Facility must provide handwashing capabilities or sanitizer.

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- ii. Employers must ensure frequent handwashing by employees, and provide an adequate supply of soap and/or hand sanitizer, disinfectant, and paper towels.
  - iii. Pool, deck, and other communal spaces must be fully sanitized prior to opening each day.
  - iv. Employer must provide for hourly touch-point sanitization (e.g., on all workstations, equipment, screens, and doorknobs) throughout work site.
  - v. Restrooms may be open, but must be cleaned and disinfected hourly.
  - vi. Patrons should arrive at the facility in swimwear.
  - vii. Stand-alone Pool and Swim Facility: Locker Rooms will be closed. Arrive in suits with towel. Restroom must be cleaned after each and every use. Shower protocol on arrival. Doors remain open.
  - viii. Gyms or Fitness Center Pools: Locker rooms must be adequately addressed in the mitigation plan and conform to all health mandates, or be closed.
  - ix. Ancillary accommodations such as Steam Rooms, Saunas, and Jacuzzis/hot tubs shall remain closed.
- c. Staffing:
- i. Employer must provide training for employees regarding these requirements and provide each employee with a copy of the business mitigation plan.
  - ii. Employer must conduct pre-shift staff screening and maintain a staff screening log.
  - iii. Symptomatic or ill employees may not report to work.
  - iv. No employee may report to the work site within 72 hours of exhibiting a fever.
  - v. Employer must establish a plan for employees getting ill and a return-to-work plan following CDC guidance, which can be found online at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>.
- d. Cleaning and Disinfecting:
- i. Water: Per CDC guidance, proper operation and maintenance, including disinfection with chlorine and bromine, should inactivate any virus in the water. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/water.html>
  - ii. Facility: Cleaning and disinfecting must be conducted in compliance with CDC protocols weekly or, in lieu of performing the CDC cleaning and disinfecting, the business may shut down for a period of at least 72 consecutive hours per week to allow for natural deactivation of the virus, followed by site personnel performing a comprehensive disinfection of all common surfaces.

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- iii. When an active employee is identified as being COVID-19 positive by testing, CDC cleaning and disinfecting must be performed as soon after the confirmation of a positive test as practical. In lieu of performing CDC cleaning and disinfecting, businesses or facilities may shut down for a period of at least 72 consecutive hours to allow for natural deactivation of the virus, followed by site personnel performing a comprehensive disinfection of all common surfaces.
- iv. CDC protocols can be found online at:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html> and <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>.

**III. Pools are encouraged to follow additional best practices:**

- a. Move to and promote the use of cashless and receipt-less transactions.
- b. Customers should enter and exit through different entries using one-way traffic, where reasonably feasible.