



# Pool Guide

# Life Safety Inspections

Office of Licensing and Regulation  
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# Definitions

As Prescribed in R21-6-101 and R21-8-101

**“Animal or doggie door”** means a small portal in a wall, window, or human door to allow pets to enter and exit a house on their own without a person to open the door.

**“Pool”** means any natural or man-made body of water located at a foster home or on its premises that:

- a. Could be used for swimming, recreational, therapeutic, or decorative purposes;
- b. Is greater than 18 inches in depth; and
- c. Includes swimming pools, spas, hot tubs, fountains, and fishponds.

**“Pool enclosure”** means a fence or barrier surrounding a pool and meets the requirements of R21-8-113.

**“Premises”** means:

- a. The home; and
- b. The property surrounding the home that is owned, leased, or controlled by the applicant or licensee.

# DON'T FORGET ME!!!



**Ponds & Fountains under 18" deep - Acceptable**  
*\*If deeper than 18" would need to be filled w/dirt or rocks or fenced when providing care to under age 7.*



Play pools are fun for children in the hot summer months! There are many options for above ground pools. Keep in mind if your play pool holds water at a depth greater than 18" it must be fenced!



# Installing a new pool?

Installation of a new pool requires multiple phases of construction until you are ready to swim! As a licensed home the area will need to be safeguarded during construction. For homes requiring an enclosure, licensed to provide care to children under the age of seven, OLR will come and do a new pool inspection to verify the enclosure is in compliance with Title 21, Chapter 8.

OLR also offers pool consultations where an inspector will come to the home to discuss with you the options for fencing the pool to ensure compliance with rule. This request is sent to the Life Safety Inspection Unit by your licensing agency.

Installing temporary fencing to safeguard the area is a great way to ensure safety to the area during all phases of construction. Please remember that keeping the door locked or using alternate locks on exterior doors may not be in compliance with fire evacuation rules and not an effective safeguard to the construction site on the property.



# **Areas Inspected & Standards**

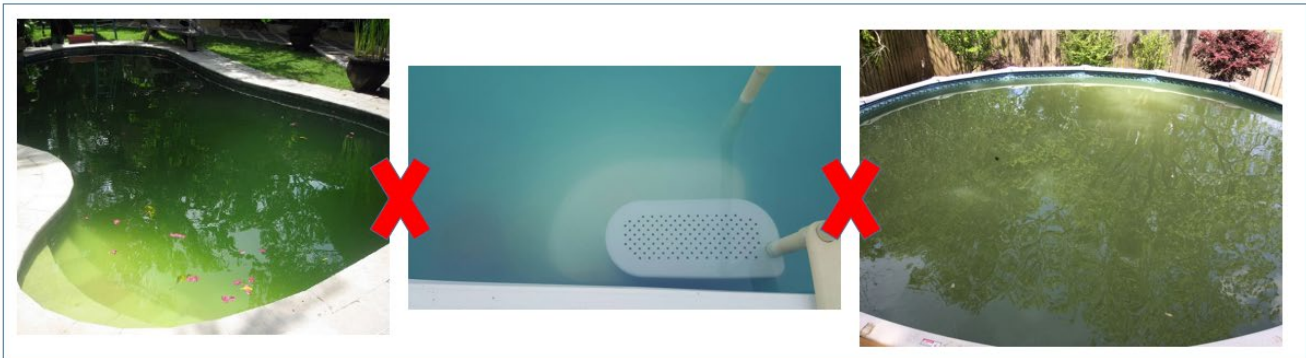
*Areas that apply to ALL Pools*

*(#1-4)*

**Pool Safety (R21-8-113)**

**1. Pool complies with ARS §36-1681**

**2. Pools are not stagnant, and are clear enough to see the bottom**



**3. All pools that are deeper than 6' must have a shepherd's crook securely attached to a pole and a ring buoy attached to a rope measuring at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  the distance across the pool plus 10'. Both shall be available in the pool area at all times.**

**Please note that ring buoy's come in a variety of sizes. When purchasing a ring buoy the size must be a min of 18". Ring buoy's often do not come with extra rope and will need to be added. Inflatable rings are not accepted.**



#### **4. If your pool is drained**

A drained pool can be a serious safety hazard. All drained pools should be drained of water at all times. If you are being licensed to provide care to children under the age of seven all pool regulations must be adhered to.

If you are being licensed to provide care to children seven years of age and older your drained pool will need to be safeguarded. This can be accomplished with fencing or some type of secure barrier that would prevent a falling hazard.



# Areas Inspected & Standards

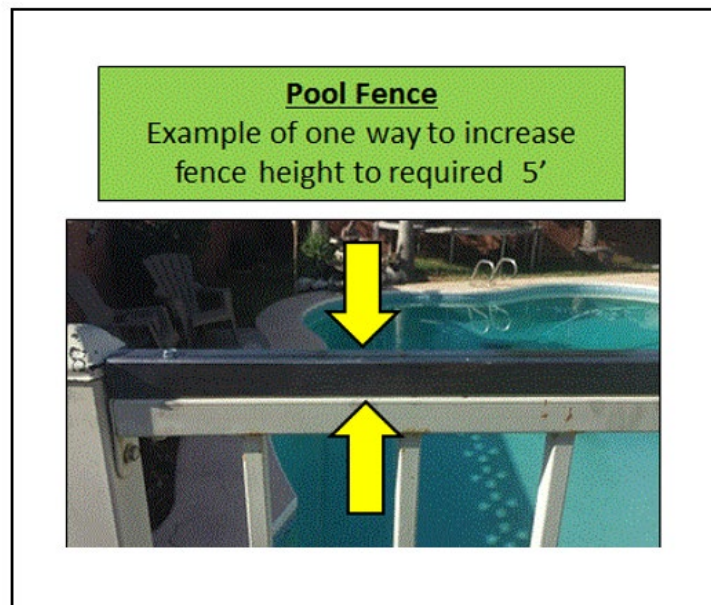
*Areas that apply to pools in homes licensed to provide care to children under the age of seven, an individual with a Developmental Disability, or all licensed Child Welfare Agency Facilities.*

**(#5-8)**



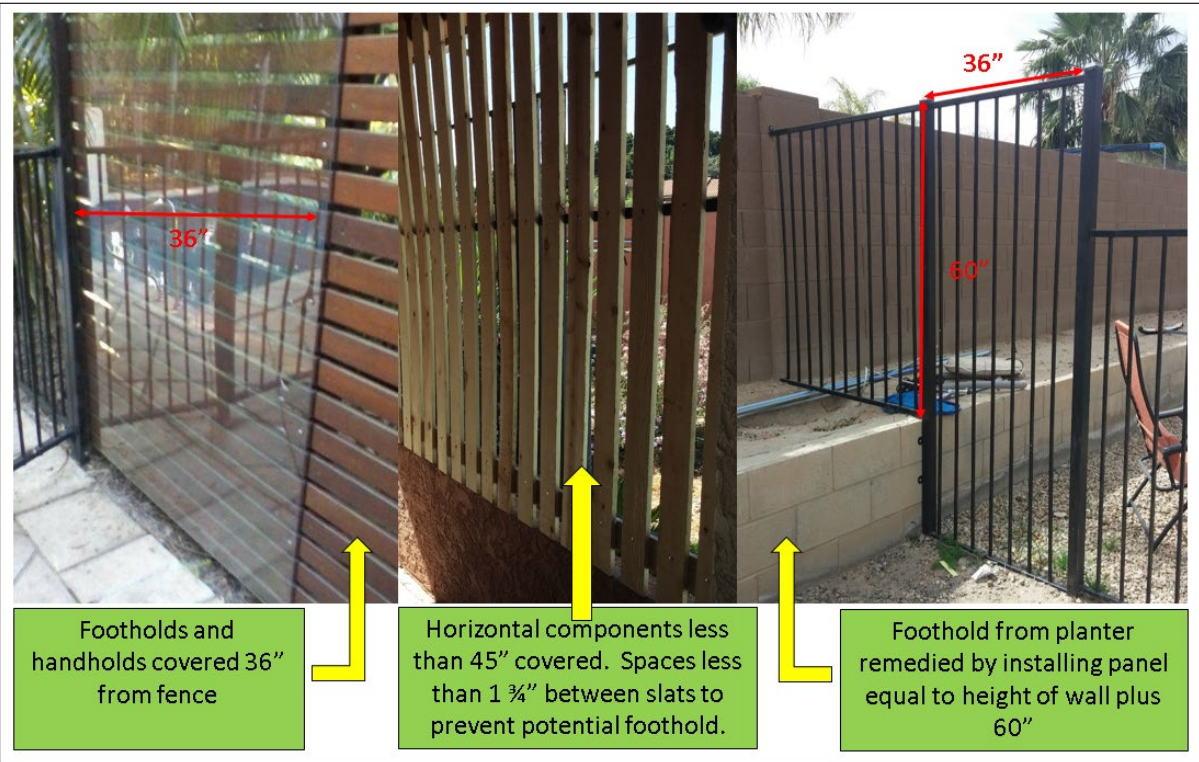
## 5. Fence/barrier meets the following:

Exterior is at least 5' high. The Life Safety Inspector will walk around the perimeter of the enclosure and measure at various areas to ensure the enclosure is 5' in all areas.

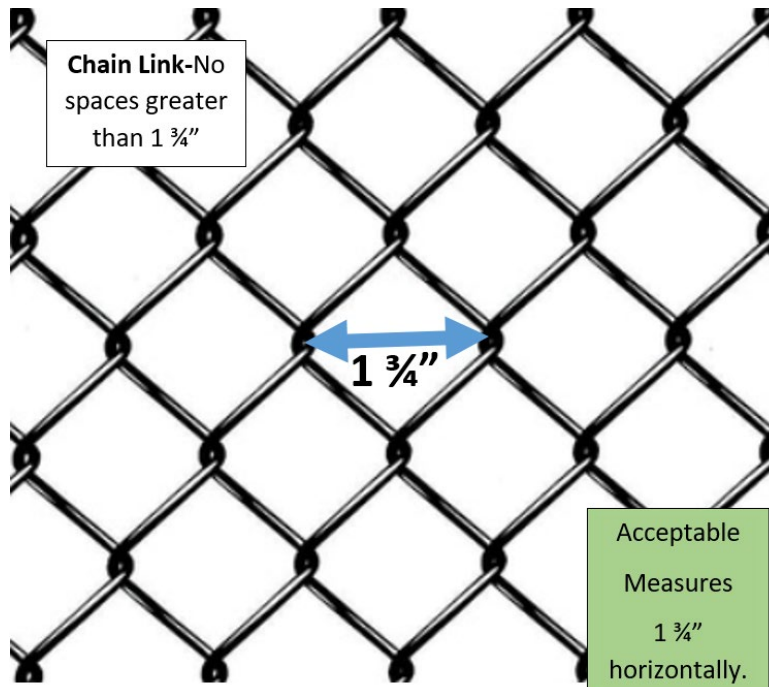


The exterior side of the fence is free of footholds and handholds. The Life Safety Inspector will look around the area and measure 3' from the fence to identify any potential items that could be used as a handhold / foothold or affect the height of the fence such as a change in landscaping.

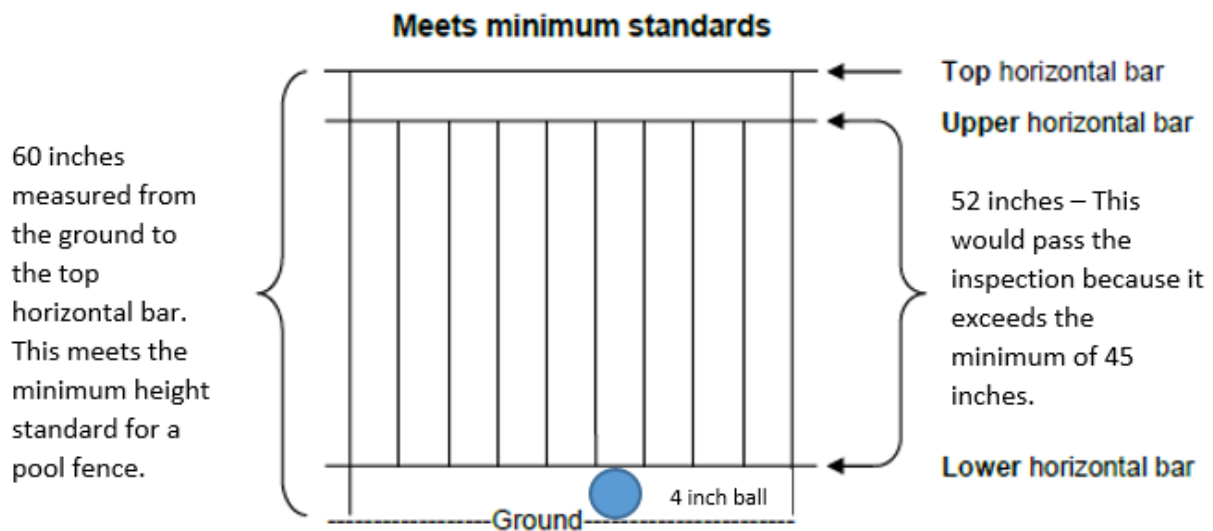


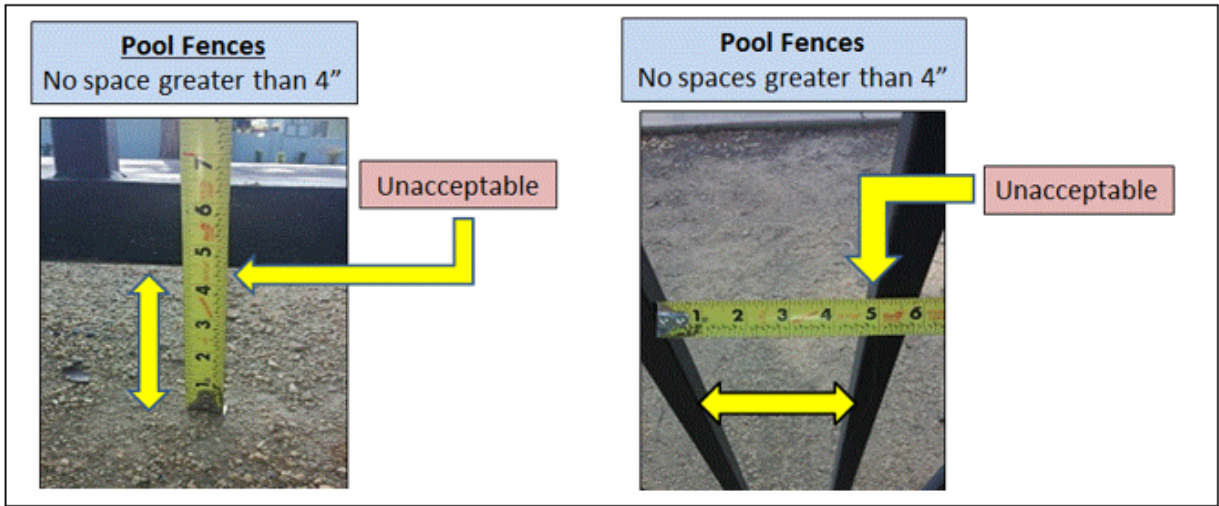


If the enclosure is constructed of chain-link, lattice, mesh, or any other similar material the openings must measure less than 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" (measured horizontally)

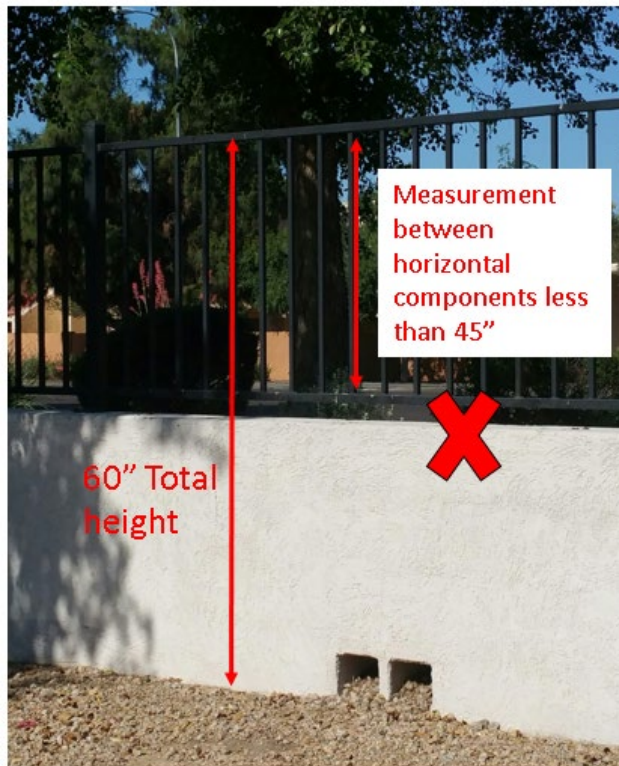


All openings must measure less than 4" (bottom, between slats and all connections)

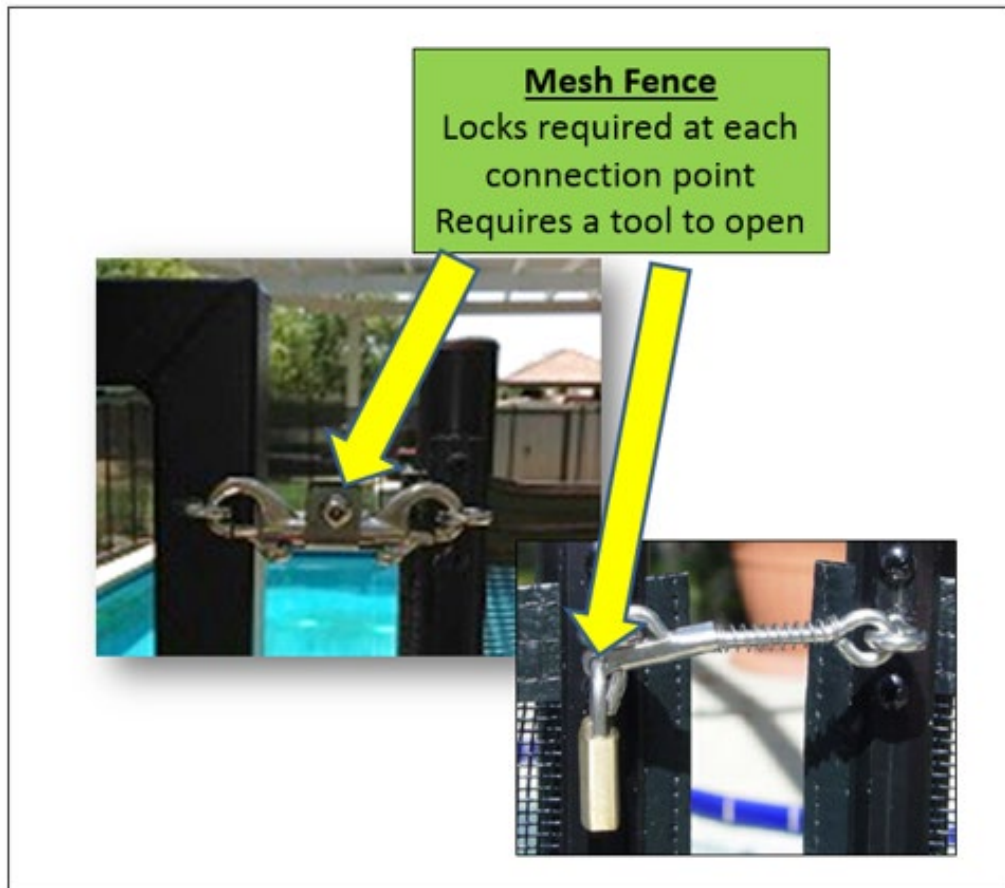




Horizontal components are at least 45” apart



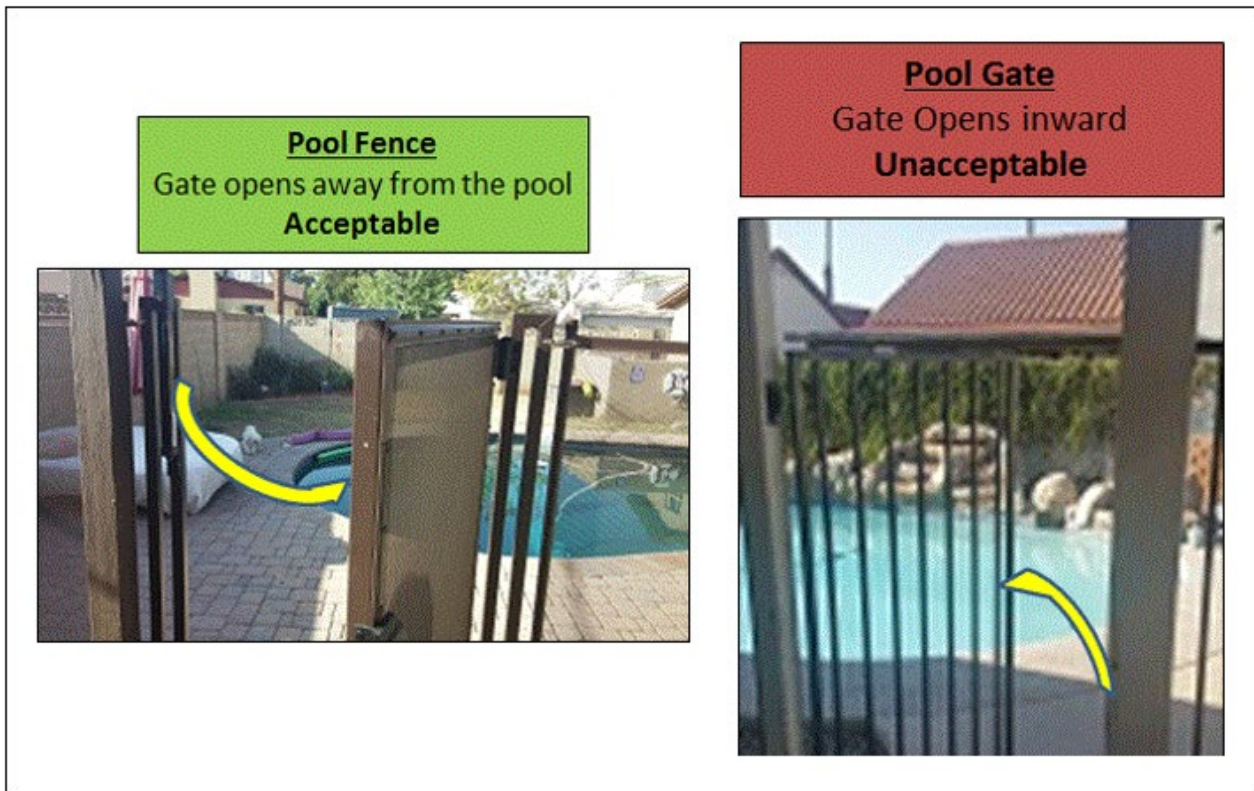
Connection between the panels cannot be separated without a tool or key



The fence is secured to the ground or has sufficient tension to prevent being lifted more than 4” from the ground at all points.

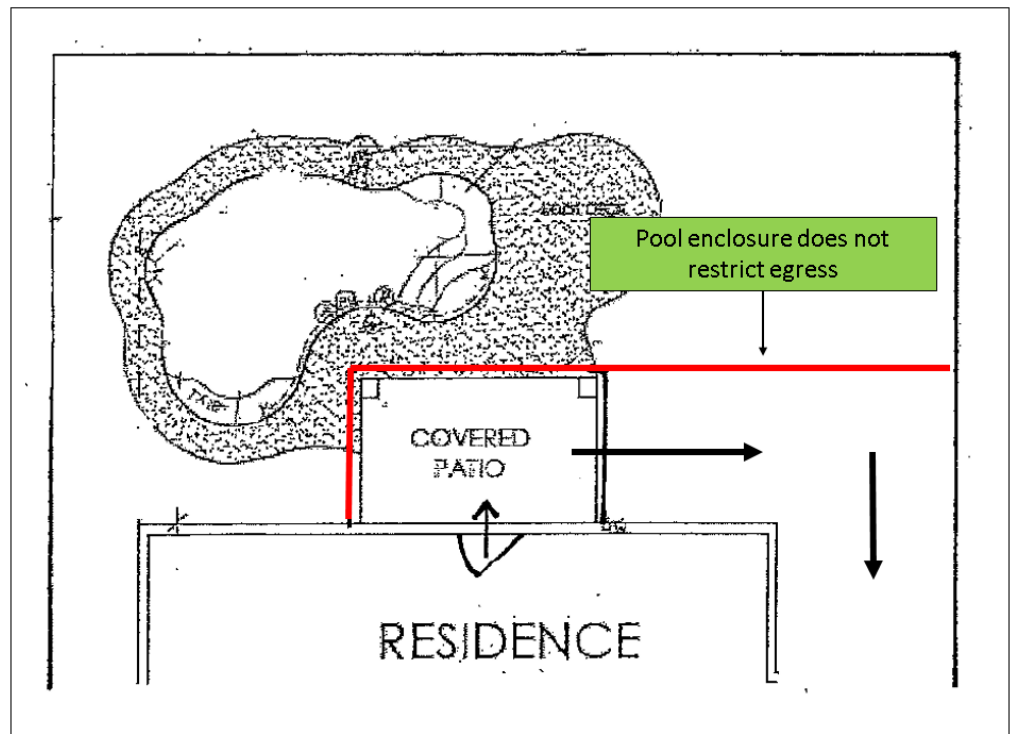
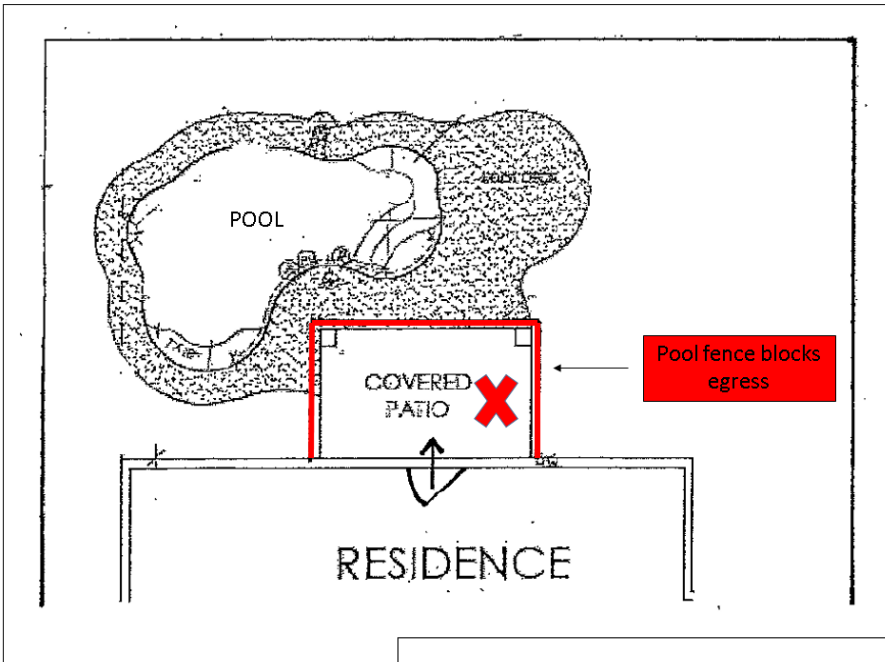
Gate latches are at least 54” above the ground and is locked with a key or combination lock.

Gates are self-closing and self-latching and the mechanism is functional and opens away from the pool (all gates must be in full compliance including side yard gates. If a gate cannot be made to be self-closing, self-latching, and open away from the pool, it must be secured to not open.) A standard RV gate is not acceptable.



## 6. If the home/building constitutes any part of the barrier

The enclosure does not interfere with safe egress from the home  
(Enclosing the patio in a home to prevent access to the pool from the back of the home would not be approved and would interfere with safe egress from the home.)

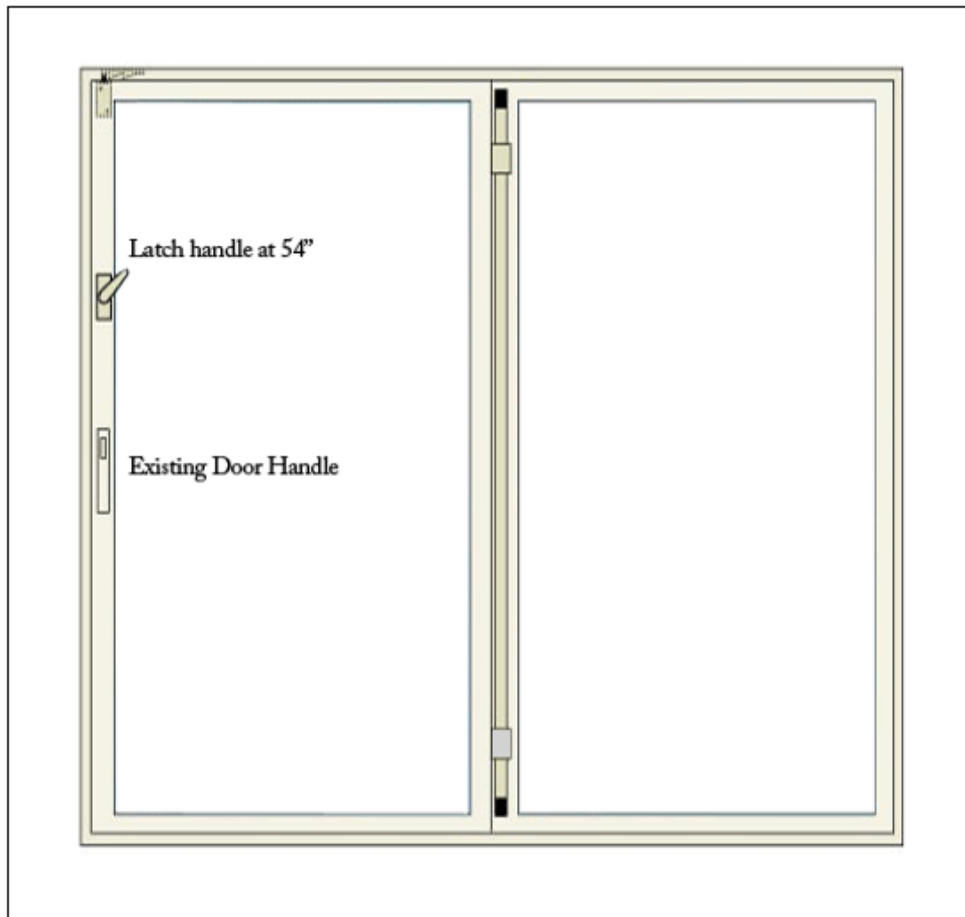




A door from the home does not open into the pool enclosure or is permanently locked or barricaded with no key accessible to a child.

An exterior door located in a bedroom that is **not occupied** by an individual receiving care **under the age of seven** may open into the pool enclosure if all of the below criteria are met...

- It is locked at all times with a latch or lock located a minimum of 54" above the floor.
- The door is self-closing and self-latching.
- Doors that are hinged must swing outward from the pool area.
- Must meet all rules in regards to doors for egress in fire evacuation rule including the availability of a quick release mechanism for the exit window or door (R21-8-112).



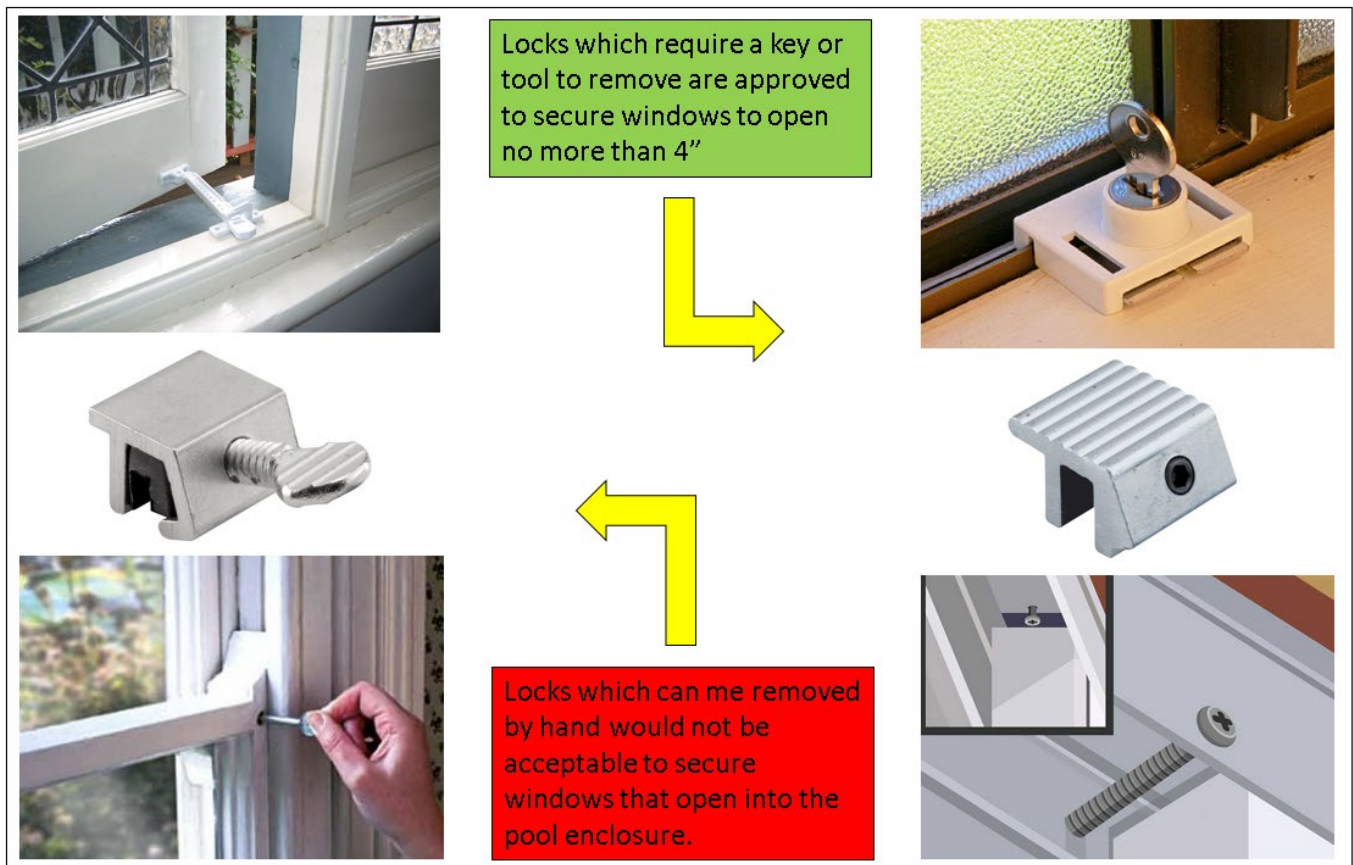
A window located in a room that is designated as a bedroom for a **foster child, under the age of seven**, shall not open into the pool enclosure.

A window in a bedroom **not designated** for use by a child in care **under the age of seven** that opens into the pool enclosure must be secured with a latching device located not less than 54" above the finished floor.

(Furniture within 3' of the latching device may be considered a foothold)

Other windows opening into the pool enclosure are permanently secured to open no more than 4". Possible rooms this may apply to would be the kitchen, bathrooms, living rooms and family rooms, laundry rooms, media rooms, offices, dens, and dining rooms.

No animal or doggie doors shall open directly into the pool enclosure.



## 7. Hot Tubs & spas must have safety covers that are locked when not in use

A hot tub or spa is required to be fenced for homes providing care to a child under the age of seven. A locking cover is not accepted in lieu of a fence. Fencing is a requirement in addition to a locked cover.



## 8. Hot Tubs & spas that are drained

The hot tub or spa must be disconnected from power at all times. The disconnection must be verified by the inspector. A breaker switched to OFF will not be an acceptable method to turn off power to the hot tub or spa. The connection can be disconnected at the motor or at the electrical panel.

The hot tub or spa must be disconnected from a water source at all times. There should be no water inside the hot tub or spa at any time.

The hot tub or spa has a cover that is locked at all times.



- 9. A locked pool cover or net would not be approved in lieu of an enclosure for a home that is licensed to provide care to children under the age of seven.**
- 10. Has a working pump & filtration system if not emptied after each use**
- 11. Once a fence has been approved by OLR as meeting standards required to provide care to children under the age of seven it must not be dismantled or moved at any time as long as the provider is licensed by OLR to serve children under the age of 7.**

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program • Under Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI & VII), and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) of 2008; the Department prohibits discrimination in admissions, programs, services, activities, or employment based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetics and retaliation. The Department must make a reasonable accommodation to allow a person with a disability to take part in a program, service or activity. For example, this means if necessary, the Department must provide sign language interpreters for people who are deaf, a wheelchair accessible location, or enlarged print materials. It also means that the Department will take any other reasonable action that allows you to take part in and understand a program or activity, including making reasonable changes to an activity. If you believe that you will not be able to understand or take part in a program or activity because of your disability, please let us know of your disability needs in advance if at all possible. To request this document in alternative format or for further information about this policy, contact your local office; TTY/TDD Services: 7-1-1. • Free language assistance for Department services is available upon request. • Ayuda gratuita con traducciones relacionadas con los servicios del DCS está disponible a solicitud del cliente.