

SWIMMING POOL BARRIER CODES

Note: These are approximate descriptions of the individual city barrier codes.
For exact details, please contact your local planning and zoning department, or local fire department.

CITY	APPLICABILITY	BARRIER OPTIONS	FENCE & WALL STANDARDS	GATE & LATCH STANDARDS	WINDOWS/ DOORS	EXEMPTIONS
Mesa*	Pools containing over 18" of water in depth & wider than 8'	Fences & walls; key operated, motorized safety covers. Above ground non-climbable sides that meet requirements	5' minimum. At least 20" from water's edge. No gaps or openings larger than 4". Horizontal members shall be spaced not more than 45" apart. Wire mesh or chain link maximum size of 1 3/4 " horizontal	5' minimum height. Must be self-closing & self-latching & lockable. Latches a minimum of 54" above ground. Release mechanism on pool side of gate. Gates wider than 4' shall be secured by a lock or hardware, or an electric opener, and remain closed when not in use.	Sleeping room windows equipped with latch 54" above floor, or secured not to open more than 4".	Irrigation and storm water retention facilities, water features in public parks and golf courses, flood control facilities. Disabled adult exception clause.
Tempe	Outdoor swimming and wading pool, hot tub, or spa.	Fences and walls.	5' minimum. No gaps or openings larger than 4".	5' minimum height. Must be self-closing & self-latching or lockable. No gaps or openings larger than 4".		Premises that adjoin the body of water recorded as Tract S of the lakes need not have an enclosure parallel

						to the bank. Pools on the premises of a hotel, or less than 18" deep
Phoenix	Any structure intended for swimming that contains water over 24" deep.	Fences & walls; key operated, motorized safety covers.	5' minimum. At least 20" from water's edge. No gaps or openings larger than 1 3/4". Horizontal members shall be spaced not more than 45" apart. No more than 2" vertical clearance to grade, unless concrete is used, which requires 4" vertical clearance to grade. Chain link must be no less than 11 gauge.	Self-closing, self-latching. Release mechanism at least 54" from grade, or on pool side, 3" below top of gate, no openings greater than 1/2". 5' minimum. At least 20" from water's edge. No gaps or openings larger than 1 3/4". Horizontal members shall be spaced not more than 45" apart. No more than 2" vertical clearance to grade, unless concrete is used, which requires 4" vertical clearance to grade.	Bedroom windows equipped with latch 54" above floor. All other openable dwelling windows equipped with screwed-in screen or keyed lock. Doggie doors are not allowed. Other windows latched or secured to prevent opening more than 4". Tempered glass when bottom edge is less than 60" above pool decks, and within 5' of water's edge. (Applies to door glass as well)	Swimming pools built before May 4, 1990, when all occupants are at least six years of age or older.
Chandler*	Swimming pools, spas, hot tubs.	Fences & walls; key operated, motorized safety covers.	5' minimum. At least 20" from water's edge. No gaps or openings larger than 4".	5' minimum height. Must be self-closing & self-latching & lockable. Latches a	Bedroom windows equipped with latch 54" above floor. Other windows latched or secured to prevent opening	Above-ground pools with non-climbable sides not less than 48" high. (different standards

			Horizontal members shall be spaced not more than 45" apart.	minimum of 54" above ground. Must open outward away from pool.	more than 4".	required)
Carefree	Pools containing over 18" of water in depth & wider than 8'	Fences and walls.	4 ½ ' minimum height, no gaps larger than 4". Horizontal bars must have a minimum separation of 45".	4 ½ ' minimum height. Must be self-closing, self-latching, lockable. Latches minimum of 48" above grade. Must open outward away from pool		
Cave Creek	Swimming pools, spas, hot tubs.	Fences & walls; key operated motorized cover. Self-closing & self-latching rear doors	5' minimum height, at least 20" from water's edge. No gaps larger than 4". Horizontal bars must have a minimum separation of 45".	4 ½ ' minimum height. Must be self-closing, self-latching, or lockable. Latches minimum of 54" above grade. Must open outward away from pool	Doors: self-closing, self-latching with lockable device or release mechanism at least 54" above floor. Windows: latching device at least 54" above floor, or equipped with screwed-in screen or keyed lock preventing opening more than 4".	Swimming pools built before July 7, 1994, when all occupants are at least six years of age or older.
Casa Grande	Outdoor pools and spas	Fences & walls	5' minimum height, no gaps larger than 4". Vertical components & wire mesh/chain link maximum size	Must be self-closing, self-latching. Latches minimum of 54" above grade. Must open outward away from pool	Windows with direct pool access must have latching device at least 54" above floor, or key lock preventing opening more than 4". Bedrooms with	

			opening 1 ¾".		pool access must have latching devices or screw in wire mesh screens.	
El Mirage	All private or semi-private swimming pools	Fences and walls	Solid wall or fence. If wrought iron, vertical bars spaced no more than 4". 6' minimum. Minimum 5' setback from pool edge and nearest property line. No gaps larger than 4".	Self-closing, self-latching gates. Latches minimum of 4 ½ ' above ground.		
Wickenburg	Swimming pools, spas, hot tubs.	Walls and fences	4' minimum height. 2" maximum vertical clearance from grade.	4' minimum height. Must open away from pool. Self-closing, self-latching. Latches at least 54" above grade. No gaps greater than 4".	Alarmed, self-closing, self-latching.	
Surprise*	Pools containing over 18" of water in depth & wider than 8'	Fences & walls; key operated motorized cover	4' minimum. Bottom clearance of no more than 2". No gaps greater than 2-4" (depending on decking). Horizontal bars	4' minimum. Self-closing, self-latching. Latches at least 54" above bottom of gate. Open away from pool. Lockable hardware or	Doors: self-closing, self-latching with release mechanism at least 54" above floor; or alarm. No pet doors providing direct access to pool. Windows: latching device at	

			must have at least 45" separation. At least 20" from water's edge.*	padlocks. Gates must have sign attached to both sides which states: " <u>Protect your children- Keep gates closed.</u> "	least 54" above floor or key lock if window not leading directly to pool.	
Avondale	Pools containing over 18" of water in depth & wider than 8'	Fences & walls; key operated motorized cover	5' minimum. No gaps or openings larger than 4". Horizontal members shall be spaced not more than 45" apart. Wire mesh or chain link maximum size of 1 3/4 " horizontal. At least 20" from water's edge.	Must be self-closing & self-latching or lockable. Must open outward away from the pool, and lock must be 54" above underlying ground.	Doors: self-latching. Bedroom windows: latching device at least 54" above floor if direct access to pool. All other windows: screwed-in screen or keyed lock preventing opening more than 4".	Irrigation canals, flood control/drainage facilities, stock ponds, public pools, residence with all occupants over age 6
Gilbert	Pool, spa, hot tub at least 18" deep	Fences and walls	4' minimum. No gaps or openings larger than 1 3/4 " measured horizontally. Chain link fences not less than 11 gauge and have a maximum mesh size of 1 3/4 ". At least 20" from	4' minimum height. Must be self-closing & self-latching or lockable. Lock must be at least 5" from the top of the gate. Padlock if double-wide gate. No gaps larger than 1/2 ".		

			water's edge.			
Scottsdale	All temporary, portable, or permanent in-ground, above-ground, on-ground pools, hot tubs, and spas and fish ponds	Fences & walls; key operated motorized cover	5' minimum perimeter fencing, internal barrier at least 4'. No gaps or openings larger than 1 3/4". Horizontal members shall be spaced not more than 45" apart. Chain link shall be not less than 11 gauge. At least 20" from water's edge.	5' minimum height. Must be self-closing & self-latching & lockable. Must open outward away from the pool, and lock must be 54" above underlying ground.	Doors: self-closing and self-latching, with release mechanism at least 54" above floor; or alarm installed on door at least 54" above floor.	Pools constructed before 1992 must only comply with fencing and gate requirements.
Paradise Valley	Bodies of water containing over 18" of water in depth & wider than 8'	Fences & walls; alarmed, self-locking and self-latching doors. Motorized safety cover.	5' minimum. No gaps or openings larger than 4". Horizontal members shall be spaced not more than 45" apart. Chain link of 11 gauge permitted.	Must be self-closing & self-latching & lockable. Must open outward away from the pool, and lock must be 54" above underlying ground.	Doors: self-closing and self-latching, with release mechanism at least 54" above floor; or alarmed.	Self-contained spa or hot tub.
Fountain Hills	Bodies of water containing over 18" of water in depth & wider than 8'	Fences and walls	5' minimum. No gaps or openings larger than 4". Horizontal members shall	5' minimum. Must be self-closing & self-latching & lockable. Must open outward		

			be spaced not more than 45" apart.	away from the pool, and lock must be 50" above underlying ground.		
Litchfield Park	Bodies of water containing over 18" of water in depth & wider than 8'	Fences & walls; alarmed, self-locking and self-latching rear doors. Key-operated motorized safety cover.	5' minimum. No gaps or openings larger than 4". Horizontal members shall be spaced not more than 45" apart. At least 20" from water's edge.	5' minimum. Must be self-closing & self-latching or lockable. Must open outward away from the pool, and lock must be 54" above underlying ground.	Doors: self-latching with latch at least 54" above floor. Bedroom windows equipped with latch 54" above floor. Other windows equipped with secured-in place wire mesh screen, or secured to prevent openings more than 4".	Irrigation canals or drainage works, troughs and structures used in agricultural practices and public swimming pools. Residence with all occupants over age 6
Tolleson*	Swimming pools, spas, hot tubs. (water 18" or more deep, 8' or more across shall conform)	Walls and fences, key operated motorized cover. Hard safety covers for spas.	5' minimum. Pool set back from lot lines at least 5'. No gaps or openings larger than 4". Horizontal members shall be spaced not more than 54" apart.	5' minimum height. Must be self-closing & self-latching or lockable. Must open outward away from the pool, and lock must be 50" above underlying ground. No gaps or openings larger than 4".	Doors: self-closing, self-latching with release mechanism at least 54" above floor. Bedroom windows equipped with latch 54" above floor. All other openable dwelling windows equipped with screwed-in screen or keyed lock. Windows latched or secured to prevent opening more than 4".	Irrigation and storm water retention facilities, golf courses
Buckeye	Bodies of water containing over	Fences & walls.	5' minimum. No gaps or	Must be self-closing & self-	A building with window or door	Irrigation canals or drainage

	18" of water in depth & wider than 8'		openings larger than 4". Horizontal members shall be spaced not more than 54" apart. At least 20" from water's edge. Chain link fences have a maximum mesh size of 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ ".	latching or lockable. Must open outward away from the pool, and lock must be 54" above underlying ground.	openings cannot be used as part of the fence structure enclosing the pool.	works, troughs and structures used in agricultural practices and public swimming pools.
Apache Junction	Bodies of water containing over 18" of water in depth & wider than 8'	Walls and fences, key operated motorized cover.	5' minimum. No gaps or openings larger than 4". Horizontal members shall be spaced not more than 45" apart. At least 20" from water's edge. Chain link fences have a maximum mesh size of 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ ".	5' minimum. Must be self-closing & self-latching or lockable. Must open outward away from the pool, and lock must be 54" above underlying ground.	Doors: self-closing, self-latching with release mechanism at least 54" above floor. Bedroom windows equipped with latch 54" above floor. All other openable dwelling windows secured to prevent opening more than 4", or with a latch at least 54" from floor.	Existing pools where all occupants are age 6 or older.
Queen Creek	Private swimming pool, located in other than the front yard. Bodies of water 18" or more in depth, wider than	Fences & walls; key operated motorized cover. No residence structure	5' minimum. Pool set back from lot lines at least 3'. At least 20" from water's edge. No gaps that	5' minimum height. Must be self-closing & self-latching or lockable. Must open outward away from the	Bedroom windows equipped with latch 54" above floor. All other openable dwelling windows equipped with screwed-in screen	

	8'.	walls containing an exterior entry door may be used in meeting requirements	can be used for foothold climbing. No gaps or openings larger than 4". Horizontal members shall be spaced not more than 45" apart. Wire mesh or chain link maximum size of 1 3/4 " horizontal	pool, and lock must be 54" above underlying ground. No gaps or openings larger than 4".	or keyed lock. Doggie doors shall be screwed in, or have one-way screws only. Other windows latched or secured to prevent opening more than 4".	
Glendale*	Swimming pools or other bodies of contained water of more than 18" in depth.	A 5' fence must entirely enclose the body of water. A dwelling or other building may be sued as part of the enclosure.	5' minimum. At least 20" from water's edge. No gaps or openings larger than 4". Horizontal members shall be spaced not more than 45" apart. Wire mesh or chain link maximum size of 1 3/4 " horizontal	5' minimum height. Must be self-closing & self-latching. Latches a minimum of 54" above ground. Release mechanism on pool side of gate. Gates wider than 4' shall be secured by a lock or hardware, or an electric opener, and remain closed when not in use.	Secondary requirements apply where a child under the age of six lives in the residence. Secondary requirements include an alarm on the pool, latching or locking covers on hot tubs, and alternative protection when approved by building officials. For above-ground pools with a height of 4' or greater, any ladder to access the unit must be removable and secured 54" above	Does not apply to sumps, canals, stock ponds, public, or semi-public pools.

					the ground when not in use.	
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***Surprise:** Fixed or movable, attached or unattached objects within 24” of pool barrier, which render the barrier easily climbable are prohibited.

***Mesa:** Adds a retro-active clause, and a public nuisance clause for non-compliance.

***Chandler:** Above-ground pools which have non-climbable sides no less than 48” above grade may be located on residential property without requiring fence, wall, or barrier, provided any steps or ladder are removable without the use of tools, or are designed to be secured in non-accessible position with a lock or latch not less than 54” above grade.

***Tolleson:** Protective enclosures shall be located at a minimum horizontal distance of 54” from any equipment, permanent structures, planters, or similar objects that could be used to climb the enclosures.

***Glendale:** Maintenance of private pools, spas, and other outside contained bodies of water without appropriate precautionary measures constitutes a severe hazard to the safety of the inhabitants of the city, particularly children. Violation of the code is deemed a class 1 misdemeanor offense. Sellers are required to provide buyers with a notice containing safety education and responsibilities of pool ownership as approved by the DHS and a copy of the pool barrier code.