POOL GATES AND FENCES FLOW CHART *(PTSI revision 09.02.2026)*

Swimming Pool / Spa

Completely enclosed by Fence/barrier?

Yes → Gate meets requirements?

No → **IMMINENT HAZARD IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION/DENY .2537(b)(5)**

Wading Pool

Completely enclosed by Fence/barrier, separating it from swimming pool?

No → **IMMINENT HAZARD IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION/DENY .2537(b)(5)**

Yes → Gate meets requirements?

Interactive play attractions (IPAs)

IPAs (meaning no standing or captured water as part of a user play area) are not required to have fences (2007 declaratory ruling)

Gate meets requirements? [.2528(a)(7)]

- Self-closing, self-latching from every position (*except where a gate attendant and lifeguard are on duty*).
- Equipped to accommodate a locking device.
- Release mechanism of latch:
  - 54 inches up from bottom of gate; OR
  - Uses key/combination/card reader to open; OR
  - Located on pool side, ≥3 inches below top of gate, and gate/barrier has no openings greater than 0.5 inch within 18 inches of release mechanism (Diamond mesh with a Short Way Opening (SWO) ≤ .5 inches is acceptable).
- Meets all dimensional requirements of a fence in .2528(a):
  - At least 48 inches in height.
  - No external handholds/footholds that are part of the gate.
  - Openings do not allow passage of a 4-inch sphere.
  - 2 inches max clearance between grade & gate bottom.
  - If tops of horizontal member ≥45 inches apart, vertical members max of 4 inches apart.
  - If tops of horizontal member <45 inches apart, vertical members max of 1.75 inches apart.
  - Diagonal members or decorative cutouts, max opening of 1.75 inch.
  - Chain link fence, max 2.25-inch square unless provided with slats.
- Pedestrian gate opens out away from pool (*If built prior to 5/1/2010, may swing in, if topography prevents*).
- Wading pool: [.2531(a)(7)] in addition to items above
  - Entrance opens away from the deeper pool.
  - Located in vicinity of shallow area of swimming pool.
  - Opens outward if stand-alone.
- Door: Ground level doors and windows opening from occupied buildings to inside the pool enclosure shall be self-closing or child protected with a barrier (windows screened or limited to 4" opening) or audible alarm. [.2528(a)(8)]

  (*Not required to self-latch – see 6/9/22 Position Statement: Public Pool Fencing Regulation*)

No → **INTENT TO SUSPEND/DENY** → Gate missing or damaged and will not close and latch under manual force?

→ **IMMINENT HAZARD IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION/DENY .2537(b)(5)**

Yes → Fence meets requirements?

Fence meets requirements? [.2528]

- At least 48 inches height.
  (*Wading pool built prior to 4/1/2000 – at least 3 feet high*).
- No external handholds/footholds that are part of the fence.
- Openings do not allow passage of a 4-inch sphere.
- 2 inches max clearance between grade & barrier bottom.
  (** Up to 4 inches clearance.*)
- Dimensional requirements of a fence:
  - If tops of horizontal member ≥45 inches apart, vertical members max of 4 inches apart.
  - If tops of horizontal member <45 inches apart, vertical members max of 1.75 inches apart.
    (** If tops of horizontal members < 30-inches apart, vertical members max 1.75 inch apart.*)
  - Diagonal members or decorative cutouts, max opening of 1.75 inch.
  - Chain link fence, max 2.25 inch square unless provided with slats.

** Fence constructed prior to 5/1/2010 may vary as noted- [.2528(b)]. Document any instance of fence not meeting .2528 (a)(1) through (6) on inspection report.*

Yes → **CONTINUE INSPECTION**

No →

- **Pool permitted and fence existing *before* 4/1/2010** → **Take demerits, no permit action** → **CONTINUE INSPECTION**
- **Pool permitted *after* 4/1/2010** → **INTENT TO SUSPEND/DENY**