

Child Care Water Activities Matrix

	Wading Pools	Swimming Pools		Off-site wading and swimming activities
Depth	Max of 24"	Over 2 feet up to 4 feet	Deeper than 4' and over 16' wide	Any depth
Training for water safety attendant	Valid CPR and first aid certificate	Non-swimming rescue and safety course	Lifeguard certification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ocean & lake = lifeguard certification ▪ Wading & swimming pools = depends on depth of water
Training for on-site directors/providers	On-site directors and FCC Providers <i>offering water activities in a pool with a depth of water between 24" and 48"</i> must take a department-approved basic water safety course that includes training in non-swimming water rescue techniques.			
Staff-child ratios	Water safety attendant counts toward ratio.	Water safety attendants, lifeguards and swim instructors <u>do not count</u> toward ratio (unless three or fewer children are in the pool).		If no lifeguards or water safety attendants present, provider must bring lifeguards or water safety attendants as needed.
Supervision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A water safety attendant must be designated at all times during swim instruction or other wading or swimming activities. ▪ During wading and swimming activities, staff must directly supervise children at all times. ▪ Children must be within sight and sound of staff. 			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Water safety attendants and lifeguards must be stationed next to the swimming pool, ocean, and lake. ▪ Non-swimmers must be clearly identified and wear flotation device. ▪ Staff who count toward ratio must be in the water, unless they are the designated water safety attendant or lifeguard. 		
			Only staff who can swim count toward ratio.	
Fenced pool area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In-ground pools must have a fence at least four (4) feet high and secured by a locked gate. ▪ Above-ground pools must have non-climbable sidewalls at least four (4) feet high or must be enclosed with a fence or otherwise protected to prevent unsupervised access. ▪ Wading pools must be emptied and cleaned daily, and removed from play areas when not in use (or must be otherwise protected by fencing or suitable barriers) to prevent children from gaining access without staff approval and supervision. 			
Policy and Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All require policies and safety procedures. ▪ All require parental permission. 			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Must have emergency phone. ▪ Require monthly drills and regular review of rules. ▪ Daily checklist must be completed. 		
Register pool w/Maine CDC	No	Yes		n/a

There are three courses that the Division of Environmental and Community Health, Child Care Licensing Unit has approved as training for Water Safety Attendants supervising activities in a pool with a depth of water between 24" and 48":

1. American Red Cross- Basic Water Rescue Course
2. YMCA- Aquatic Personal Safety and Survival Course
3. Safety Educators of Maine LLC- Basic Water Safety Course