



# Swimming Pool Safety Act 2018 Requirements

**City of Jurupa Valley  
Building Department**  
8930 Limonite Avenue  
Jurupa Valley, CA  
92509  
(951) 332-6464  
<http://jurupavalley.org>

The State of California has amended the Swimming Pool Safety Act found in Health and Safety Code Sections 115920-115929. Effective January 1, 2018 H&S Code Section 115922 now **requires at least two** of the seven drowning prevention safety features when a Building Permit is issued for the construction of a new swimming pool or spa or the remodeling of an existing swimming pool or spa at a private single-family home.

The following policy is designed to provide a consistent, uniform method to ensure compliance with the provisions of the CA Health and Safety Code and the Jurupa Valley Municipal Code.

## **Jurupa Valley Building Department Policy**

1. The City of Jurupa Valley Municipal Code Chapter 6.30 contains the requirements to provide a “barrier” to obstruct access to outdoor pools and allows the walls of a single-family dwelling to be used as part of the barrier. The exceptions, when approved, allows door openings if they are protected as specified.
2. The Health and Safety Code Section 115922 requires at least two of seven items listed to be provided. (Effective January 1, 2018) ( See page 2 for HSC-115922)
3. H&S Section 115922 (a) Item 1 *An enclosure that meets the requirements of Section 115922 and isolates the swimming pool or spa from the private single-family home.* The requirements for an “Enclosure” in Section 115923 do not allow for the walls and doors of the dwelling to be used as part of the enclosure and only references access gates. The complying “barrier” required by JVMC chapter 6.30 as described above would not qualify as an enclosure meeting the requirements of H&S Section 115923. Unless an enclosure fence completely isolates the pool from the dwelling, then Item 1 cannot be used as one of the two required safety features.
4. In Jurupa Valley, if the barrier in compliance with JVMC 6.30 uses the dwelling as part of the barrier with protected openings as specified then at least one other item must be used excluding Items 4 and 5 since they are part of the barrier. This leaves Items 2, 3, 6 or 7 as possible options for the second item. [2-Removable mesh fencing, 3-Pool safety cover, 6-Pool alarm, 7-Other means as approved by the Building Official.] (See page 2 for HSC Section 115922)
5. When obtaining a permit for a pool or spa the two items used to comply with H&S 115922 must be clearly stated on the plans. Documentation and spec sheets must also be included to show compliance with required applicable standards.

See page two of this document for selected sections of the Health and Safety Code.

The entire text of the Swimming Pool Safety Act can be found at the following link:

[Swimming Pool Safety Act](#)

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# HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

## ARTICLE 2.5. The Swimming Pool Safety Act [115920 - 115929]

**115922.**(a) Except as provided in Section 115925, when a building permit is issued for the construction of a new swimming pool or spa or the remodeling of an existing swimming pool or spa at a private single-family home, the respective swimming pool or spa shall be equipped with **at least two** of the following seven drowning prevention safety features:

- (1) An enclosure that meets the requirements of Section 115923 **and isolates** the swimming pool or spa from the private single-family home.
- (2) Removable mesh fencing that meets American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Specifications F2286 standards in conjunction with a gate that is self-closing and self-latching and can accommodate a key lockable device.
- (3) An approved safety pool cover, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 115921.
- (4) Exit alarms on the private single-family home's doors that provide direct access to the swimming pool or spa. The exit alarm may cause either an alarm noise or a verbal warning, such as a repeating notification that "the door to the pool is open."
- (5) A self-closing, self-latching device with a release mechanism placed no lower than 54 inches above the floor on the private single-family home's doors providing direct access to the swimming pool or spa.
- (6) An alarm that, when placed in a swimming pool or spa, will sound upon detection of accidental or unauthorized entrance into the water. The alarm shall meet and be independently certified to the ASTM Standard F2208 "Standard Safety Specification for Residential Pool Alarms," which includes surface motion, pressure, sonar, laser, and infrared type alarms. A swimming protection alarm feature designed for individual use, including an alarm attached to a child that sounds when the child exceeds a certain distance or becomes submerged in water, is not a qualifying drowning prevention safety feature.
- (7) Other means of protection, if the degree of protection afforded is equal to or greater than that afforded by any of the features set forth above and has been independently verified by an approved testing laboratory as meeting standards for those features established by the ASTM or the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).

(b) Before the issuance of a final approval for the completion of permitted construction or remodeling work, the local building code official shall inspect the drowning safety prevention features required by this section and, if no violations are found, shall give final approval.

*(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 670, Sec. 4. (SB 442) Effective January 1, 2018.)*

**115923.** An enclosure shall have all of the following characteristics:

- (a) Any access gates through the enclosure open away from the swimming pool, and are self-closing with a self-latching device placed no lower than 60 inches above the ground.
- (b) A minimum height of 60 inches.
- (c) A maximum vertical clearance from the ground to the bottom of the enclosure of two inches.
- (d) Gaps or voids, if any, do not allow passage of a sphere equal to or greater than four inches in diameter.
- (e) An outside surface free of protrusions, cavities, or other physical characteristics that would serve as handholds or footholds that could enable a child below the age of five years to climb over.

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