

PROPOSED CHANGES TO PUBLIC HEALTH FEES

PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Environmental Health Division (**EH**), is proposing changes to the Los Angeles County Code, Title 8 – Consumer Protection, Business, and Wage Regulations; Division 1 – Public Health Licenses. These changes impact permit, plan check, and service fees that are collected under the authority of State and County Codes to carry out duties that protect public health and safety.

Overview of Program

A public pool is any swimming pool, spa, spray ground, or special purpose pool that is operated for the use of the public with or without charge. The pools may be at a gym, private club, hotel, motel, apartment complex, school, or any residential complex, such as a condominium or mobile home park.

EH inspects public pools to verify that they are safe, clean and properly maintained. These inspections help prevent illness, reduce drowning and injury risks, and confirm that water quality, safety equipment, and facility operations meet health standards. EH also reviews and approves public pool construction plans for compliance with State law. The EH Recreational Waters Program certifies swimming pool service technicians who maintain public swimming pools within its jurisdiction. In total, EH inspects approximately 16,000 public pools throughout Los Angeles County.

Why are the fees changing now?

Fees were last increased in 2018. While fees have remained the same, operational costs have increased annually due to negotiated employee salaries and benefits, along with inflation. From FY 19/20 through FY 25/26, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased by about 25%, and cost-of-living increases approved for County workers totaled 20.5%. Yet fees have remained at 2018 levels despite these cost increases.

A comprehensive fee study was conducted along with an evaluation of current operational costs and the fee levels required to cover those costs. The study reviewed direct and indirect costs associated with program administration, inspection, oversight and enforcement. The fee analysis structure was validated by the LA County Auditor-Controller. The last comprehensive fee study for EH programs was conducted in 2011.

What are the fee changes?

A summary of the proposed fees is listed below. If approved by the Board of Supervisors, the new fees will go into effect December 15, 2026. Existing permitted businesses will receive a supplemental invoice for any increases in annual health permit fees for Fiscal Year 26/27, and existing businesses where annual permit fee decreased will receive a credit during the FY27/28 annual health permit billing.

To minimize the impact of future increases, starting in FY 27/28, fees will be adjusted annually based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI), with no fee exceeding the reasonable cost of providing services.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS PROGRAM FEES

PERMIT TYPES	Current Fee	Proposed New Fee
SWIMMING POOL LOW RISK (1st POOL): Pool located in multi-family dwellings with 4 or more units, mobile home parks, community complexes, or seasonal pools in operation six months or less and emptied when not in use	\$274	\$405
SWIMMING POOL LOW RISK ADDITIONAL: Additional low risk pool at the same location	\$162	\$156
SWIMMING POOL MODERATE RISK (1st POOL): Pool located at hotels, motels, public or private schools, Children's Camps, swim schools, country clubs, municipal facilities, organizations, health or fitness club, or medical facilities	\$672	\$847
SWIMMING POOL MODERATE RISK ADDITIONAL: Additional moderate risk pool at the same location	\$348	\$565
SWIMMING POOL HIGH RISK (1st POOL): Pools located at splash pad, water park, or theme park	\$1,007	\$1,450
SWIMMING POOL HIGH RISK ADDITIONAL: Additional high risk at the same location	\$522	\$536
AQUATIC SAFETY PLAN INSPECTION: Formal evaluation of aquatic safety plans for certain swimming pools located in unincorporated areas of Los Angeles and in cities that adopt ordinance	NEW	\$410
SWIMMING POOL TECHNICIAN/APPRENTICE: Any individual that has the responsibility of disinfecting, cleaning, servicing, or maintaining a public swimming pool.	\$75	\$72

PLAN CHECK FEES	Current Fee	Proposed New Fee
POOL - MINOR RENOVATION (SINGLE ITEM): A repair to an existing swimming pool, involving only one specific component or feature, excluding pool resurfacing	\$354	\$729
POOL - MINOR RENOVATION (TWO ITEMS OR MORE): A repair to an existing swimming pool, involving only two specific components or features, excluding pool resurfacing	\$544	\$844
POOL - MAJOR RENOVATION (SPA): Replumb of a public pool, installing of an ozone corona discharge system, a chlorine salt generator, a solar heating system, or the installation of all new equipment	\$1,021	\$1,631
POOL - MAJOR RENOVATION (POOL):	\$1,306	\$2,092

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POOL (NEW): Review of newly constructed pool or existing pools that want to change the shape, depth, or volume	\$2,613	\$3,570
SPA (NEW): Review of newly constructed spa or existing spa that want to change the shape, depth, or volume	\$1,796	\$2,367
POOL RESURFACE: Review of proposed renovation work that involves replacing the worn or damaged interior pool surface including but not limited to verification of rails, waterline and divider line tile, depth markers, covers, stairs/steps, and coping	\$721	\$1,007

SERVICE FEES	Current Fee	Proposed New Fee
SWIMMING POOL TECHNICIAN/APPRENTICE EXAM: A test to evaluate the knowledge, skills, and competencies of individuals responsible for the maintenance and operations of a public swimming pool	\$212	\$177

FEE COMPARSION BY COUNTY

The proposed fees are consistent with those of comparable jurisdictions when accounting for differences in scale and scope. Given Los Angeles County's large population and extensive inspection and service responsibilities, the proposed fees are appropriately aligned with comparable jurisdictions.

PERMIT FEES	LOS ANGELES PROPOSED NEW FEE	PASADENA	LONG BEACH	ORANGE	VENTURA	SAN DIEGO	RIVERSIDE	SAN BERNARDINO
SWIMMING POOL LOW RISK 1	\$405	\$460	\$491	\$429	\$446 - \$718	\$468	\$463	\$584

Visit our website to learn more about [Public Swimming Pools](#).

How to provide feedback

Questions and comments can be submitted to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EHfees> or scan the QR code.

