

	The Corporation of the Township of St. Clair  Community Services  Standard Operating Procedure	SOP: #	SOP
		Revision: #	4
		Title:	Admission Standards for Public Pools
		Implementation Date:	October 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2018
Approved By:	Kendall Lindsay	Review/Update Date:	September 19, 2024
Signature:		Approval Date:	September 17, 2020
Location:	Complex Pool		

### **1. Purpose**

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The purpose of this SOP is to ensure the health and safety of staff and the public by establishing admission standards for the safe use of public pools.

### **2. Scope**

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The Policy applies to all intended users of the Aquatics Facility during recreational swims.

### **3. References**

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Guide to Ontario Public Pools Regulation

### **4. Hazards**

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- Drowning

### **5. Responsibilities**

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Managers, Supervisor & Coordinators and required:

- To ensure that the procedure is followed in the workplace at all times
- To ensure that affected staff receive relevant training on the requirements of this procedure
- To ensure that staff are using and wearing the specified PPE

Workers

- Follow the requirements of this SOP
- Attend required training

### **6. Procedure**

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#### **6.1 Terminology & Definitions**

- **Facility Swim Test:** Swim continuously & comfortably with your face in the water for 2 widths of the MSC Pool.
- **Direct Supervision:** Within arm's reach of the adult/guardian.
- **Approved Lifejacket:** A lifejacket or PFD approved by the Canadian Coast Guard, Transport Canada, or Fisheries and Oceans Canada.
- **Approved Puddle Jumper:** A Puddle Jumper device approved by the same authorities.
- **Non/Weak Swimmer:** Inability to effectively demonstrate the above Facility Swim



- **Adult/Guardian:** 16 years of age or older.

## 6.2 General Rules

- 1. Children 6 and Under:**
  - Must be accompanied by a guardian in the water (within arms reach).
  - Ratio: 2:1 without lifejackets/Puddle Jumper; 4:1 with Approved Lifejacket or Puddle Jumper
  - Ratios are subject to swim evaluation with puddle jumpers and/or approved lifejackets to ensure swimmer safety. Lifeguards discretion
- 2. Non/Weak Swimmers Under 10:**

Under 48 inches (Red wristbands):

  - Must be within arms reach of a guardian (16+) in the water.
  - Ratio: 2:1 without lifejackets/Puddle Jumpers; 4:1 with Approved Lifejackets.

Over 48 inches (Yellow wristbands):

  - Guardian must remain on the pool deck (16+) and be prepared to enter water upon lifeguard request
  - Swimmer must remain in the Shallow End of pool – at anytime, lifeguards reserve the right to request a guardian in the water and/or for swimmer to don an Approved Lifejacket.
- 3. Capable Swimmers (7-9 years):**
  - Can swim without a guardian in the water if they successfully complete the facility swim test.
  - Guardian must remain in the facility.
  - At anytime, lifeguards reserve the right to request a guardian in the water and/or for swimmer to don an Approved Lifejacket.
- 4. Supported Individuals:**
  - Must be accompanied by an adult/guardian/social worker.
  - Pool Admission Policy applies
- 5. Facility Day Camp / Programming:**
  - Ratio may be increased to 6:1 for Facility camps and programming for Non/Week Swimmers under 10 years but over 6 years of age.
- 6. Responsibility:**
  - Guardians/group leaders are responsible for children in their care and must supervise them directly.
- 7. Age Requirement for Guardians:**
  - Guardians or group leaders must be at least 16 years old.

### Notes:

- All children must remain within arm's reach of their guardian at all times.
- Lifeguards reserve the right to reevaluate any participants swimming abilities at any point in time
- All decisions are made at the discretion of the Lifeguard(s) on Duty

## 7. Documentation

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### Revision History:



<b>Revision No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description of Revision</b>	<b>Revised By</b>
2	Oct. 3, 2017	Previously issued Admission Standards.	Linda Kennedy
3	Feb. 14, 2019	Previously issued Admission Standards	Michelle Rottier
4	September 17, 2020	Previously issued Admission Standards	Michelle Rottier
5	September 19, 2024	Previously issued Admission Standards	Michelle Rottier