

Errata to the July 2012 Issuance of the Standards

Changes to section 2.1.6.3 – Drop Slides have been made to the standards posted on the website. However, if you have printed a copy from the website prior to December 6, 2016, please ensure that the following items are correct.

Swimming Pool Design And Operational Standards

2.1.6.3 Drop Slides (*Revised November 2016*)

1. Drop slides are slides which discharge into a pool with a drop of more than 5 centimeters (2 inches) to the water surface:
 - (a) Slide entry areas shall be designed so the rider is able to properly enter and position him or herself before sliding down the chute. This area shall be a small platform or a less sloped portion of the chute with well placed assist bars.
 - (b) Drop slides shall have handrails on both sides of the ladder and steps. Platforms and landings shall have a minimum 87 centimeters (34 inches) high guard rails with at least one intermediate handrail.

Recommendation:

Platforms and landings should have guard rails with a height of 107 centimeters (42 inches) with vertical slats on all hand and guard rails.

- (c) There shall be a drop slide landing area extending 1.5 metres (5 feet) on either side on the center line of the slide and from the backwall to 6.1 metres (20 feet) in front of the slide terminus. This area shall not infringe on the required landing areas for other drop slides, water flume slides, or diving equipment.
 - (d) The drop slide landing area shall be separated from the rest of the pool in a manner approved by the public health officer. A slide mounted in a separate diving area may be allowed to use the diving area separation as long as access to the diving well is restricted to patrons using slide and diving equipment.
 - (e) The terminus of the chute shall extend beyond the pool wall, and be so oriented that the safety area in front of the slide does not interfere with the safety area of another slide or other pool equipment.
 - (f) The maximum angle of the slide runway at the exit shall be between zero degrees and 11 degrees, measured downward from horizontal.
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- (g) The area in front of the slide terminus outward to 1.8 metres (6 feet) in front of the slide terminus shall have a depth as established from the table below. The slide shall be constructed so that the rider enters the water in this 1.8 metres (6 feet) area. If the depth is 1.5 metres (5 feet) or less, the bottom in this area shall have a maximum slope of 1:12 and the slide shall be located at least 1.5 metres (5 feet) from any change to steeper slope of the pool bottom.

Water depth from the slide terminus to 1.8m in front of the terminus	Corresponding maximum height above the water
1.2 m to 1.5m (4 to 5 feet)	30 cm (12 inches)
2.4 m (8 feet) minimum	110 cm (42 inches)

- (h) The maximum drop height at the terminus of the slide shall not exceed 110 centimetres (42 inches).
- (i) If water is pumped from a swimming pool to the slide, the pump intake shall be constructed according to the anti-entrapment requirements.
- (j) Slides shall be located and constructed to allow easy supervision. When a slide is not open for use, it shall be secured to prevent access.
- (k) The slide shall have a posted set of rules that include the following:
- (i) One rider at a time. Wait until the landing area is clear before entering the slide;
 - (ii) Slide in a sitting position or on the back only;
 - (iii) Do not attempt to stop in the slide;
 - (iv) Leave plunge area immediately;
 - (v) Warning Water Depth is _____ metres (____ feet); and,
 - (vi) Non-swimmers not permitted (if over 1.5 metres deep).
- (l) Only drop slides intended for commercial use as indicated by the manufacturer shall be installed in a public swimming pool.