

Frequently Asked Questions about Commercial Pools in the City of Houston

How can I obtain a pool permit?

You can download an application online and submit along with the permit fee to business management

How much does a permit cost?

Annual Permit Fee: **\$135.00 plus \$25 admin. fee**

Permit Replacement Fee: **\$25.00**

Late Permit Fee: **\$50.00**

Plan Review Fee: **\$135.00 plus \$25 admin. fee**

Pool Re-inspection Fee: **\$165 plus \$25 admin. fee**

Final Preopening Fee: **\$125 plus \$25 admin. Fee**

How do I submit a complaint?

You may submit a [complaint online](#) or by calling (832)393.5740. You will need the exact address of the concern, business name if applicable, and the principal concern. You are not required to submit your personal information.

What do I do about my citation?

You are able to receive fine amounts and court procedures at www.houstoncourts.org, by calling 311 or (713) 837-0311.

What to expect from an inspection?

During an inspection, the inspector will look for:

- Appropriate level of chlorine (1.0-8.0 ppm for pools, 2.0-8.0 ppm for spas)
- Appropriate pH level (7.0-7.8)
- Spa temperature not to exceed 104°F
- Proper water clarity, main drain clearly visible
- Main drains and skimmer covers securely in place, no cracks or breaks present
- Primary enclosure minimum of 48 inches in height
- Gaps in and under primary enclosure less than 4 inches
- Gates and doors must be self-closing and self-latching
- Pool/spa must be free of algae
- Pool/spa equipment must be in good general working condition
- Backflow prevention device must be in place on all fill lines
- Pool/spa must be free of objects

What type of pool needs a permit?

All commercial pools/spas located within the City limits are required to have a permit. This permit expires annually, or upon transfer of ownership of the pool, whichever occurs first.