



Aquatics Unattended Minor Policy

Statement of Policy

The City of Albuquerque Aquatics Division (Aquatics) fully commits to the safety and service of all who use our City Aquatics facilities. Safety is the number one goal and Aquatics strives to be prepared, alert, and aware to ensure the well-being of all patrons. It is important to prevent accidents and provide care to the best of our abilities and training as appropriate to every situation. Service to children is also a high priority of Aquatics. Children are welcome and are encouraged to participate in Aquatics programs. However, busy public access swimming pools are not safe places for children to be left alone. Aquatics staff are not licensed caretakers and are not responsible for a child's wellbeing, behavior, and/or discipline. Parent supervision is highly recommended for minors of all ages. This policy has been established to provide a safe and positive environment for children who use the City of Albuquerque Aquatics Facilities.

Policy

- Responsibility for the welfare and behavior of children in City Aquatics facilities rests with the parent/legal guardian or assigned caregiver. The Aquatics staff will enforce safety rules and provide correction but does not provide care or supervision of children.
- Children eight (8) years of age and younger must be accompanied by a parent/legal guardian at all times and within arm's reach while in the water. Therefore, the parent or legal guardian must be in the water as well. If a child can demonstrate sufficient swimming abilities through a swim test, said child can swim in the pool without a parent/guardian or caregiver. A caregiver must be eighteen (18) years or older (sixteen (16) years or older if a relative of the child or a group leader with a child care or day camp type organization).
- Children ten (10) years of age and younger must have a parent/legal guardian or caregiver present at the Aquatics Facility. If a parent/legal guardian or caregiver of any child age ten (10) or under cannot be contacted or located, the Aquatics facility will ask the Albuquerque Police Department or City Security to intervene.
- Children aged eleven (11) and older may be left unattended provided they are mature enough to stay alone and observe proper conduct. Disruptive children will be required to leave the Aquatics facility. Children are subject to the same rules of conduct as other Aquatics patrons, and the same consequences apply, including suspension from use of Aquatics facilities or intervention by Albuquerque Police Department or City Security. The possibility that such consequences may be imposed should be considered when deciding whether or not to allow your child to use an Aquatics facility without parental supervision.
- Staff will consider children left unattended in violation of this policy as endangered, and they will be referred to the Albuquerque Police Department for intervention or other appropriate action.
- Regardless of age, the parent or legal guardian does not need to be present for City of Albuquerque Learn-to-Swim programming with the exception of Parent-Tot classes.

November 21, 2022

Medical Emergencies

When staff recognize a medical emergency, they will activate the facility emergency action plan. Staff will attempt to contact the parent or legal guardian for consent for treatment. If parent or guardian is not present and cannot be reached, consent will be implied. Aquatics staff will respond to their level of training and will notify EMS for life-threatening situations. Aquatics staff will not assume any responsibility for the treatment or transport of a child in medical distress.

Pool Closing & Incident Report

If the Aquatics facility is closing and the parent or legal guardian of an unattended child cannot be reached, the Aquatics staff will call the Albuquerque Police Department. A minimum of two staff will remain with the child until the police arrive and staff will document the situation with an incident report.