

2020 Float Tank Code

To acquire an operating permit from the Department of Health, a special purpose pool owner shall acquire a variance from the Department or utilize one of the manufacturer's variances, and comply with the applicable provisos listed after the state codes cited below. The operation and design construction of Epsom Salt Float Rooms and Tanks are often in violation of certain requirements of Florida Administrative Code (FAC) Chapter 64E-9, and the Florida Building Code (FBC) Chapter 4, section 454.1 that generally apply to conventional pools as follows.

FAC/FBC Chapter	Requirement
64E-9.004(5)	Recirculation system must operate any time pool is open
454.1.2.1 (a)	Water line tile requirement; floor and wall color must be white or light pastel
454.1.2.2.4	The minimum water depth shall be 3 feet
454.1.2.3.5	Pool rules sign
454.1.2.5	Access shall consist of ladders, stairs, recessed treads or swimouts
454.1.3.1.2	Clear deck width, deck slope
454.1.3.2	Overhead obstruction clearance of 4 feet from water surface
454.1.4.2.2	Lighting requirements for indoor pools
454.1.5.5	Equipment enclosure must have minimum 3 x 6-foot opening
454.1.5.7	Equipment area lighting must provide 30-foot-candle
454.1.6.1	Unisex restrooms must include a urinal
454.1.6.5.1	NSF/ANSI Standard 50-certified recirculation filter is required
454.1.6.5.10.5	Main drain must be connected to a collector tank
454.1.6.5.11	Automatic makeup water control
454.1.6.5.14	Heater must be plumbed with a bypass and influent & effluent valves
454.1.6.5.16	Automatic feeders for disinfection and pH control required
454.1.6.5.16	NSF/ANSI Standard 50-certified disinfectant feeder is required
454.1.6.5.16.4.2	Ozone generating equipment shall meet NSF/ANSI Standard 50
454.1.6.5.16.4.2	NSF/ANSI Standard 50-certified Ozone generator is required
454.1.6.5.16.4.4	Air flow meter required for ozone system
454.1.6.5.16.6 (3)	UV validation requirements by USEPA method
454.1.6.5.16.6 (3)	USEPA method to validate UV light disinfection is required
454.1.6.5.3.2.5	6-inch water line tile required for skimmer pools
454.1.6.5.6	Plastic pipe used in the recirculation system shall be imprinted with the manufacturer's name and the NSF-pw logo for potable water applications.

Mitigation of special condition(s) and those specific for safety and health issues are addressed as follows:

1. **Before an operation permit can be granted** by the Department of Health (DOH), the owner shall provide either:
 - (1) a UL certificate of compliance for #1563, Standard for Electrical Spas, OR
 - (2) evidence of a final electrical inspection for the special purpose pool(s).

Such evidence will be

- (a) an approved electrical inspection to show compliance with the Florida Building Code grounding and bonding requirements of FBC Chapter 4, section 454.1.10.4 for public pools, OR
- (b) other evidence acceptable to the jurisdictional building department official

2020 Float Tank Code

Inspection(s) shall be conducted by either the local building department electrical inspector or by a Florida state-licensed electrician.

Email a digital copy of the approved inspection report to the Bureau of Environmental Health Water Programs email: PoolInspectRequest@FLHealth.Gov.

2. **The owner will ensure** that the recirculation treatment system provides complete water treatment for at least three (3) full water volume turnovers between each patron's float session manually or by electronic controls. The applicant shall provide turnover specifications for each Float unit as follows:

Special Purpose Pool (Model/Type)	Volume	Time: 3 Turnovers
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Each pool shall be equipped with a timer to ensure the turnover requirement is met.

3. **The owner shall** initiate fecal indicator bacteria testing within seven (7) days of opening the float facility to the public.

The pool owner shall use a Department-certified water laboratory to test for and enumerate E. coli bacteria in a 100-mL water sample collected from each special purpose pool. Samples shall be collected twice, once per week for two (2) consecutive weeks after several client's float sessions on that day.

The owner shall, within one (1) day of receipt of lab test results, email the digital scanned (or photographed) copies of the lab testing report. The report shall include results from the logged pool water chemistry for halogen (chlorine or bromine) residual and pH of the facility from the time of the 100 ml water sample collection.

The digital sample results report must be emailed to the Bureau of Environmental Health Water Programs: PoolInspectRequest@FLHealth.Gov.

4. **The manufacturer** shall meet the applicable standards for suction outlet drain covers and equipment area safety features, as required in section 514.0315, Florida Statutes, for daily use in a special purpose pool(s).

To remain in compliance, the pool owner must maintain the pool drain anti-entrapment cover(s) and fully functional over the operational life of the special purpose pool(s).

5. **The pool owner** must provide entrance/exit access for a step riser above 10" outside the special purpose pool, with a support handrail or grab bar within reach of the float room door entrance/exit.
6. **The facility owner or operator** must maintain at least 4 feet of wet deck area available for patron egress in front of the float room entrance/exit opening.
7. **The owner** must provide a code-compliant pool rules sign with posted inside the float device room. Font may be reduced to ½ inch from the code requirement. The sign shall include the following language as written in FBC sections 454.1.2.3.5- 1., 5., 7., and 454.1.8.13- 1., 3.: *No food or beverages in pool or on pool wet deck; ... Shower before entering.; ... Do not swallow the pool water; ... Maximum water temperature: 104°F (40°C); ... Pregnant women, small children, people with health problems and people using alcohol, narcotics or other drugs that cause drowsiness should not use a float tank without first consulting a doctor.*
8. The halogen feeder shall be maintained in good operating order. A halogen feeder installed in accordance with swimming pool code requirements for the special purpose pool(s) precludes the need for either an ultraviolet light system or an ozone generating system to be certified to NSF or USEPA

2020 Float Tank Code

criteria. Ozone and UV device(s) provided by manufacturer shall be considered only as an optional supplemental oxidizer system.

Use of hydrogen peroxide for residual disinfection of water is prohibited.

9. **Within seven (7) days of installation completion** a 'change list' shall be provided, which document(s) any replacements or modifications made to Department-approved or Building Official-approved equipment.

Such document shall provide the make and model numbers of any equipment installed on the float room(s) that is not listed in the approved variance.

The 'change list' shall be forwarded to the DOH Bureau of Environmental Health at email PoolInspectRequest@FLHealth.gov.

10. **Applicant** shall submit evidence in the form of documents and laboratory tests attesting floors have slip resistance as defined in FBC section 454.1. All units shall have approved, code-compliant slip resistant floor(s).
11. **Any changes shall be approved in advance** by the DOH Bureau of Environmental Health, to the existing variance for a model which is no longer valid, or for representations made in the original variance application and subsequent documents submitted by the manufacturer or the owner for approval to any dimensions, components, water treatment systems, or to any equipment
This does not apply to 'like-for-like' repairs.

Florida Department of Health

Bureau of Environmental Health Water Programs: PoolInspectRequest@FLHealth.Gov.