
 Organization Name

Creating a Swim Wristband Program

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

A color-coded swim wristband program is one tool you can use as a part of an overall child safety program. This checklist helps you identify areas to consider when starting a wristband program. Your state may have specific rules for child water safety that you'll want to consider before crafting your wristband policies and procedures.

NOTE: Color-coded swim wristbands work best as a part of a layered safety approach that includes supervision, trained lifeguards, a buddy system, and restricting areas where inexperienced swimmers engage in water play.

	Yes	Needs Attention
<p>1. Do you have an identification chart that clearly states each wristband color's meaning, criteria for the color, or staff instructions for the color?</p> <p>The <i>Sample Swim Wristband Color Identification</i> form on page 3 helps get you started.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>2. Do you have a written policy for your swim wristband program?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>3. Does your policy include which skills are needed for each level of swim competency? (e.g., inexperienced, intermediate, and competent swim levels)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>4. Do you have written procedures for how you will evaluate a child's swim competencies?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>5. Do you administer your competencies test at a time when a lifeguard can focus on one child at a time?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>6. Do you mark children under 7 as an inexperienced swimmer, regardless of competency?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>7. Do you set a maximum age for a swim competencies test?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Yes	Needs Attention
8. Do you have a check-in procedure prior to water play that ensures each child is marked with the correct band?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Does your body of water or pool have well-marked zones that correspond to swim competency levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Do you train your staff annually on each wristband color's meaning, corresponding criteria, and implementation guidelines?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Do you inform parents/guardians about your color-coded wristband policy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Do you require parents/guardians to sign a waiver stating that they understand your swim program, including the wristband policy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Notes: _____

Completed by: _____ Date: _____

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Sample Swim Wristband Color Identification

Organization: _____ Year/Season: _____

Completed by: _____ Date reviewed: _____

[name of organization] uses a color-coded wristband system as a part of our overall child safety program. This form indicates the meaning of each color and its corresponding criteria or instructions. Please refer to the *[name of procedures manual]* for implementation guidelines.

WRISTBAND IDENTIFICATION

RED = _____

Instructions _____

YELLOW = _____

Instructions _____

GREEN = _____

Instructions _____

BLUE = _____

Instructions _____

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