



**Development**  
SERVICES DEPARTMENT

*Building a Better and Safer Austin Together*

# Diving Envelope



# Purpose

**To review building official's interpretation requiring diving envelope when elevated surfaces are within 4 feet of the water edge.**

# Building Official Interpretation

It is the opinion of the building official that all manufactured or field fabricated elevations that create a potential diving apparatus, located within 4 feet of the water edge, and not designed or intended as diving equipment per section 808 of the 2018 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC), will be required to have a diving envelope as per section 804 of the same code.

# Reasons For Interpretation

For the purpose of clarification,  
Builders interpret the code to require a  
diving envelope only when the platform  
or appurtenance is designed as a  
launch point.

# Determination

**This determination was made based on language provided in the 2018 ISPSC commentary and another recognized industry standard ANSI/APSP/ICC-5 2011.**

**808.1 Manufactured and fabricated diving equipment.** Manufactured and fabricated diving equipment shall be in accordance with this section. Manufactured and fabricated diving equipment and appurtenances shall not be installed on a Type O pool.

❖ Manufactured diving equipment includes diving boards and jump boards. Fabricated diving equipment includes built-on-site platforms, diving rocks, cavern roofs, etc. Where a pool is not designed in accordance with the minimum diving water envelope dimensions of Table 804.1, the pool is a non-diving pool and diving equipment, manufactured or fabricated, must not be installed on the pool.

**1.8 Definitions - ANSI/APSP/ICC-5 2011 Standard for Residential In ground Swimming Pools.** Manufactured or field fabricated diving equipment for in ground swimming pools diving board/stand combination or manufactured platform. The term “field fabricated” covers diving platforms that may be fabricated on site, including but not limited to: platforms incorporated into elevated planters or water features, split-level decks, boulders, or diving rocks that may be poured into or mounted on a pool deck, etc.

# Platform Height Above Waterline

**808.12 Platform height above waterline.** The height of a stationary diving platform or a diving rock above the *design waterline* shall not exceed the dimensions in Table 808.12.

TABLE 808.12  
DIVING PLATFORM OR APPURTENANCE  
HEIGHT ABOVE DESIGN WATERLINE

POOL TYPE	HEIGHT INCHES
I	42
II	42
III	50
IV	60
V	69

**Type O.** A non-diving pool.

# Minimum Diving Water Envelope

**TABLE 804.1**  
**MINIMUM DIVING WATER ENVELOPE FOR SWIMMING POOLS DESIGNATED TYPES I-V<sup>b</sup>**

POOL TYPE	MINIMUM DEPTHS AT POINT FEET-INCHES				MINIMUM WIDTHS AT POINT FEET-INCHES				MINIMUM LENGTHS BETWEEN POINTS FEET-INCHES					
	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	WA	AB	BC	CD	DE	WE
I	6-0	7-6	5-0	2-9	10-0	12-0	10-0	8-0	1-6	7-0	7-6	Note a	6-0	28-9
II	6-0	7-6	5-0	2-9	12-0	15-0	12-0	8-0	1-6	7-0	7-6	Note a	6-0	28-9
III	6-10	8-0	5-0	2-9	12-0	15-0	12-0	8-0	2-0	7-6	9-0	Note a	6-0	31-3
IV	7-8	8-0	5-0	2-9	15-0	18-0	15-0	9-0	2-6	8-0	10-6	Note a	6-0	31-3
V	8-6	9-0	5-0	2-9	15-0	18-0	15-0	9-0	3-0	9-0	12-0	Note a	6-0	36-9

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

- The minimum length between points C and D varies based on water depth at point D and the floor slope between points C and D.
- See Figure 804.1 for location of points.

# Minimum Requirements

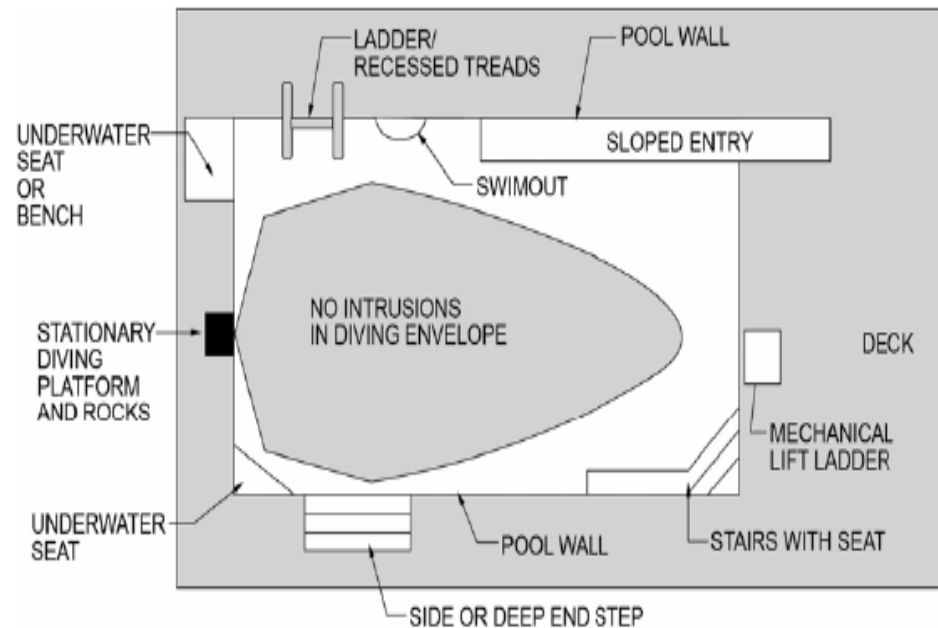
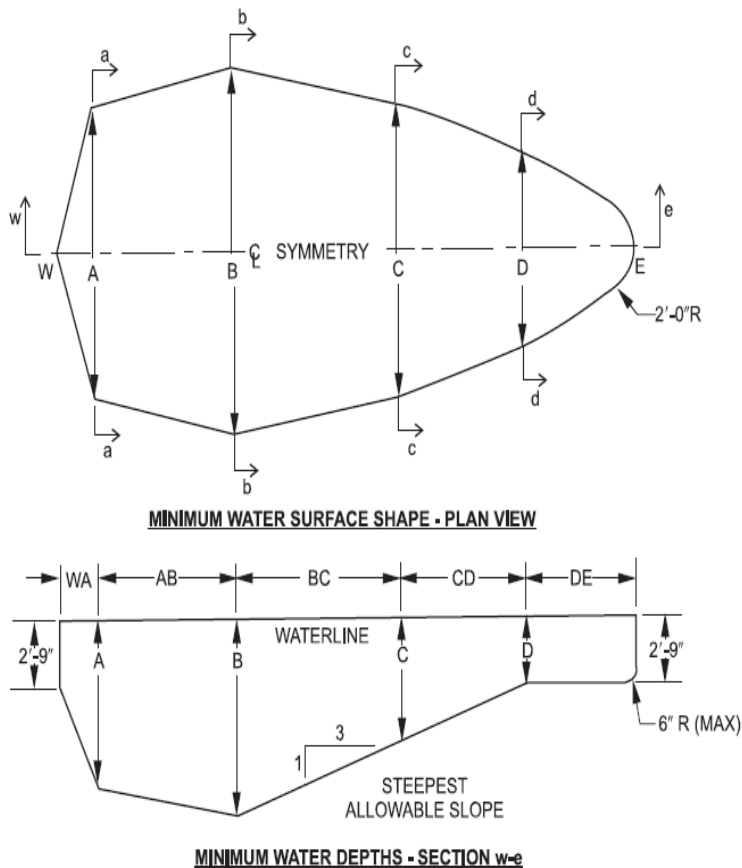


FIGURE 322.2  
MINIMUM WATER DIVING ENVELOPE



# Official ICC Stance

## **SECTION 104 DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE CODE OFFICIAL**

**[A] 104.1 General.** The code official is hereby authorized and directed to enforce the provisions of this code. The code official shall have the authority to render interpretations of this code and to adopt policies and procedures in order to clarify the application of its provisions. Such interpretations, policies and procedures shall be in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code. Such policies and procedures shall not have the effect of waiving requirements specifically provided for in this code.

# Unofficial ICC Opinion

The presence of any horizontal surface adjacent to the waters edge does not require a pool to be designed as a diving pool. Any horizontal surface adjacent to the water's edge *could* be used as a launch point for diving into the pool, whether that surface at the typical height of about 6 inches above the design water level or at any height above that. The existence of those types of surfaces does not require a pool to be designed to be a diving pool unless the pool owner has the intent to use those surfaces as a launch point for diving. Where a pool is designed for the installation of manufactured or fabricated diving equipment, then the pool must be designed as a diving pool of a Type that is appropriate for the type, height *and location* of equipment to be installed.

Code opinions issued by ICC staff are based on ICC-published codes and do not include local, state or federal codes, policies or amendments. This opinion is based on the information which you have provided. We have made no independent effort to verify the accuracy of this information nor have we conducted a review beyond the scope of your question. This opinion does not imply approval of an equivalency, specific product, specific design, or specific installation and cannot be published in any form implying such approval by the International Code Council. As this opinion is only advisory, the final decision is the responsibility of the designated authority charged with the administration and enforcement of this code.