



Informal Interpretation Report Number 8290



Date June 20, 2019

Edition 2017

Section 454.1.3.1.9; 1010.1.10; 1010.1.9.9

Question:

Would a pool access door from a clubhouse comply with the Florida Building Code safety barrier requirements if the door is self-closing, self-latching, self-locking with key fob access, contains panic hardware and swings in the direction of the pool?

Answer

Here is what the code states - All public pools shall be surrounded by a minimum 48 inch (1219 mm) high fence or other approved substantial barrier. Note it says fence. It further states that doored access points from public rooms such as lobbies or club houses need not be through gates if the door(s) meet the same self-closing, self-latching requirements as a gate. It further states that access shall be through self-closing, self-latching lockable gates of 48 inch (1219 mm) minimal height from the floor or ground with the latch located a minimum of 54 inches (1372 mm) from the bottom of the gate or at least 3 inches (76 mm) below the top of the gate on the pool side. If the self-closing, self-latching gate is also self-locking and is operated by a key lock, electronic opener or integral combination lock, then the operable parts of such locks or openers shall be 34 inches minimum (864 mm) and 48 inches maximum (1219 mm) above the finished floor or ground. So the door hardware can be between 34 to 48 inches as so allowed above. Its not required to be at 54 inches . . .

Commentary:

None.

Notice:

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, ICC, and industry and professional experts offer this interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This interpretation is informal, non-binding and subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.