Gallaudet University Pool

Field House Swimming Pool Use Policy

Effective: June 2013

The Gallaudet University swimming pool, located in the Field House, serves the Gallaudet students and the Gallaudet community.

Use of the pool facility by the Gallaudet University

Swim Team is managed by the Athletics Department and is not included in this statement.

First Priority:

Gallaudet University Students. The pool facility is open on a regular schedule for open (recreational) swim to serve the recreational interests of Gallaudet University students. This open swim time will have priority scheduling. It will not be altered to accommodate special group rentals or special events. Faculty and staff may purchase a pool pass, on a semester basis, and gain access to the pool during scheduled open (recreational) swim time. Kellogg Conference Center Hotel guests may use the pool for a one-time use fee. Hotel guests have access to the pool during regularly scheduled open (recreational) swim time.

Second Priority:

Gallaudet Community: On occasion, Gallaudet University groups may reserve use of the pool facility. The reservation will be by written contact (agreement) only. The agreement will include reimbursement for the facility time used. Fees will cover all direct costs for use of the facility; usually direct fees will be lifeguard staff. The pool manager will determine the number of lifeguard staff required to safely accommodate a group. A signed agreement and payment are required prior to the facility use. Availability of the pool facility and availability of Gallaudet University lifeguard staff will be considered in approval of an agreement.

Third Priority:

Groups that contract to use Gallaudet University facilities. On occasion, groups contract to use the Gallaudet University facilities for events, workshops, and other training activities. Unless specifically included in a Gallaudet University contract agreement, these groups will have third priority for use of the pool facility. The reservation will be by written contact (agreement) only. The agreement will include reimbursement for the facility time used. Fees will cover all direct
costs for use of the facility; usually direct fees will be lifeguard staff. The pool manager will determine the number of lifeguard staff required to safely accommodate a group. A signed agreement and payment are required prior to the facility use.

Availability of the pool facility and availability of Gallaudet University lifeguard staff will be considered

Effective: August 2017

Pool Rules and Safety

When visiting Gallaudet pools, please remember that proper swim attire is very important. Please view, download and/or print Swim Attire Requirements poster for clarification around pool wear; and look for this sign in the locker rooms and various pool common areas in our Aquatic facilities.

The Gallaudet pool opens year round with 3 semesters; Fall, Spring, and Summer. Please review and follow these important pool safety tips and rules. In addition to the rules below, we encourage you to look for lifesaving equipment by the pool.

Pool Admission Policies

- Pool users must abide by all posted rules and lifeguard directives. Failure to do so can result in ejection from the facility.
- All patrons must sign in and show ID.
- Children under the age of 13 must be accompanied and supervised by an adult of 18 years and over at all times.
- Child younger than 6 years must be accompanied by an adult—in swim attire—at all times, and must be within an arm's length of the adult when in the pool. One adult can only accompany to one child
- Parents with children ages 6 to 12 cannot be responsible for a group larger than 6. The ratio for this age group is 1 adult for every 6 children (1:6).
- All parents with children, ages 6 and up, must use gender-appropriate locker rooms/family changing rooms. If you have special needs or require assistance, please contact an Aquatic Coordinator.
- The actions and conduct of an organized group are the responsibility of the group leader(s). Misconduct of individuals may result in dismissal of the group.
- Appropriate swim attire is required in pool area.
- No pets are allowed in pool premises—except guide dogs—and only on deck, not in the pool.
- Persons with open wounds, rashes, nasal discharge, inflamed eyes or bandages are not allowed in the pool.
- Persons who appear to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not be permitted in the pool or in the surrounding area.
- Persons on medication must have authorization from their physicians to swim.
- Infants/children not toilet trained, and incontinent adults must wear swim suit diapers or snug plastic pants under their swim suits. Diapers (cloth and disposable) are prohibited.
- Food consumption and glass containers are prohibited on premises.
- No bicycles or strollers allowed on pool deck.
- No weapons.
- No smoking.

Pool Rules

- No swimming when pool is closed
- No swimming when lifeguard is not on duty
- No running on deck
- No dunking, splashing, or horseplay inside the pool
- No diving in any depth under 5 feet
- No toys, floating devices, snorkels or masks allowed in the pool—unless part of an authorized class
- No gum, spitting, spouting, nose blowing or urinating in the pool
- No consumption of food or glass containers allowed in the pool area
- Socializing with or distracting the lifeguard on duty is prohibited
- Only appropriate swim attire allowed in the pool
- Aqua shoes are only to be worn during Water Aerobic Sessions as long as they are clean and free of all foreign debris.

Patrons/Guests will be dismissed from the facility for the following reasons:

- Improper conduct
- Causing injury to others
- Intoxication
- Improper swimwear
- Failing to obey all rules

Locker Room Rules

- Protect your valuables—Gallaudet Pool is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.
- You must soap and shower entire body before entering pool.
- No loitering in the locker room or showers.
- No videotaping or any photography allowed in locker rooms or showers.
- Consumption of food and glass containers prohibited in locker room.
- Appropriate swim attire is required in pool area.

Water Safety Tips for Children

- Never take your eyes off of children in the pool—even for a moment! If you’re in a group, appoint a designated “water watcher,” taking turns with other adults.
- Don’t rely on water wings or other inflatable toys. If your child can’t swim, stay within an arm’s reach.
- Lifejackets are strongly recommended for all non-swimmers (they are free and available at Gallaudet pool storage/facilities).
- While supervising, stay alert and avoid distractions like reading or the telephone.
- Teach children to swim after age 4. Gallaudet Swim School offers learn to swim courses for all ages.
- Teach children how to tread water, float and get out of the pool.
- Learn infant and child CPR.