Costs to build and maintain an aquatic center are HUGE. A pool 75 feet by 35 feet and with 5 lanes uses 90,000 gallons of water. Annual cleaning requires emptying and refilling the pool. Topping takes 5000 gallons of water. Heating the pool (82 degrees) costs approximately $5000 monthly. Vacuuming for one hour uses 50 gallons of water per minute with water going down the drain and then must be replaced. Sodium hypo-chlorite costs $800.00 monthly. Water clarity calls for additional chemicals. Cleansing shower before entering the pool are required by State Law.

Air temperature, ventilation and humidity are controlled by sensors which must be replaced every six months. The pool area must have rescue poles, rings, belts, a gurney, non-skid surfaces, and flotation lines between each lane. Posted "Rules and Regulations" must be strategically placed and enforced. Safety, First Aid and Sanitation must be in operation.

Contracted and salaried personnel include a Certified Pool Operator, a mechanical engineer, a manager, and financial officer. Additional staff includes certified Life Guards, a certified aquatic director ,security officials, janitorial staff, attendants, office personnel. Maintenance costs start with offices, locker rooms, shower rooms and storage space. Equipment include filters, plumbing, electronics, gages, dials, sensors , pumps and supply services (towels, laundry soap, paper towels, toilet paper, etc.) Hours of operation are relevant overhead costs which can vary month to month. **Before any decision is made, a detailed cost analysis must be made and include the money source. Aquatics are expensive.**

See also: Oregon Department of Human Services: Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 333, Public Swimming Pools.

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