

Severe Weather, Tornado, Earthquake

When severe weather, a tornado or earthquake occurs:

Severe Weather or Tornado

When a tornado is imminent or occurring

1. Immediately shelter on the lowest floor of a building in an interior room with the fewest windows, a basement, a center hallway, bathroom or closet
2. Locate nonperishable food, bottled water, battery-powered radios, first aid supplies, flashlights, batteries, plastic sheeting, garbage bags, or other emergency supplies
3. Remove or lower objects in the room that may become airborne or fall
4. Shelter under a sturdy desk, table or solid object
5. Stay away from bookcases and objects that may tip or fall over

Earthquake

When an earthquake occurs

1. Take cover (under a sturdy desk, table or solid object)
2. If outside, move away from buildings, walls, poles or objects that may fall/collapse
Note. Do not go inside a building for shelter

Immediate Aftermath

1. Assess the situation (injuries, egress routes, hazards, etc.)
2. Assist others in exiting the building (do not use elevators unless directed)
3. Once outside, move away from the building, allowing emergency responder access
4. Report to university officials/emergency responders trapped or injured persons
5. Do not re-enter the building unless authorized
6. If there is a fire, and the fire appears controllable
 - activate the fire alarm system by pulling the nearest pull station
 - immediately call extension 911 on any university phone or 911 on a cell phone and provide
 - the exact location and intensity of the fire (gas leaks, etc.)
 - estimated number of persons and locations at risk due to the fire
 - follow instructions provided by the call-taker
 - if trained, use university firefighting equipment when the equipment is appropriate to the size and intensity of the fire
7. If the fire does not appear controllable
 - activate the fire alarm, call extension 911 or 911 and provide the information listed above
 - locate any person in the vicinity of the fire, direct them to evacuate immediately and assist them, when practical
 - evacuate the building, closing doors (but don't lock) after all persons have exited
 - once outside, move away from the building, allowing emergency responder access
 - assist emergency responders, if requested
8. If trapped in the building due to the fire, go to a window away from the fire
 - hang something (article of clothing, towel) outside the window to mark your location
 - if no windows exist, stay near the floor and shout at regular intervals
 - await the arrival of and follow the directions of emergency responders
9. If trapped in the building due to a collapse, remain calm
 - assess your personal health (injuries, severity, etc.)
 - immediately address blood loss or other life threatening injuries
 - attempt to use a solid object to strike a nearby surface to signal your location

follow the directions of emergency responders