



# **HOCK--HOCKMEYER HALL Building Emergency Plan**

**Date Adopted:**

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**Prepared By: Russell Logsdon**

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### **Quick Reference Summary**

Building Deputy Name:

Phone #

Evacuation Emergency Assembly Areas (**fire alarm**): Immediately evacuate the building and proceed to the parking lot area away from the building .

Shelter in Place recommendation for a **tornado warning**: If a tornado warning has been issued for campus, move to the lowest level possible away from exterior doors and windows. Seek more information on storm conditions from National Weather Service weather radio or application on mobile device.

Shelter in Place recommendation for an active threat such as a shooting: If one cannot get away, shelter in a room that is securable preferably without windows.

Use the "Get Ready...Get Set...Go" chart to provide options based on situational awareness. Available as [Word document](#) or [PDF file](#).

Shelter in Place recommendation for a **major hazardous materials release**: shelter in nearest building or classroom, shutting any open doors and windows.

**NOTE: In-depth information, procedures, and considerations are detailed on the following pages. This summary provides the evacuation and shelter locations for various incidents. Take responsibility for your own safety by reviewing the BEP for all**

**buildings you typically occupy. Please contact your Building Deputy and/or BEP-Developer if you have any questions.**

**Get Ready...Get Set...Go**

**Shelter in Place Considerations for Life Threatening Incidents**

<p><b>This information is designed to encourage building occupants to develop an individual plan based on potential life threatening incidents such as a shooting on campus. Actions should be based on situational awareness. React to Purdue ALERT information as well as what you see and hear in your general area. See EP website for more info</b>  <b><u><a href="https://www.purdue.edu/emergency_preparedness/">https://www.purdue.edu/emergency_preparedness/</a></u></b></p>		
<p><b>Get Ready...</b> be prepared.</p> <p><i>An active threat incident has occurred on the West Lafayette campus; incident location is <b>not</b> near me.</i></p>	<p><b><u>General Actions:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow information sources: Campus status page, Twitter @PurdueEmergency, text and email alerts.</li> <li>• Review your <u>BEP</u> (located on EP website)</li> <li>• Notify others of incident.</li> <li>• Review internal procedures; be ready to implement.</li> <li>• Plan next steps if incident impacts my area:                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Should I get out?</li> <li>◦ Where will I shelter if needed?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Specific actions based on your location:</u></b></p>
<p><b>Get Set...</b>stay alert; be prepared to implement your plan.</p> <p><i>An active threat incident has occurred on the West Lafayette campus; incident location is <b>near</b> me</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement all Get Ready actions.</li> <li>• If the threat is ongoing or you feel your safety is in jeopardy, implement your department or building specific actions.</li> <li>• Be ready to get out/escape or shelter in</li> </ul>	

<p><b>This information is designed to encourage building occupants to develop an individual plan based on potential life threatening incidents such as a shooting on campus. Actions should be based on situational awareness. React to Purdue ALERT information as well as what you see and hear in your general area. See EP website for more info</b></p> <p><b><u><a href="https://www.purdue.edu/emergency_preparedness/">https://www.purdue.edu/emergency_preparedness/</a></u></b></p>		
<p><i>but not in my building.</i></p>	<p>safe area based on situational awareness.</p>	
<p><b>Go...</b>stay calm and activate your plan.</p> <p><i>An active threat incident has occurred on the West Lafayette campus; incident location is <b>in my building</b> or I feel my safety is in jeopardy (location of perpetrator is unknown).</i></p>	<p>Based on situational awareness, immediately:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decide if you can escape; if possible get out of the building to a safe location.</li> <li>• If you can't escape, then shelter in a lockable area and/or a room that you can secure or barricade.</li> <li>• As an absolute last resort, consider taking action if your safety is in jeopardy.</li> </ul>	

**Section 1: User Items**

**Emergency Contact Information:**

<b>Building Manager or Deputy</b>	
Name	Russell Logsdon
Phone Number	496-3416 / Cell Phone 765-490-1175
Email Address	<a href="mailto:logsdonr@purdue.edu">logsdonr@purdue.edu</a>
Office/Room Number	121

<b>Facility Manager, if applicable</b>	
Name	Russell Logsdon
Phone Number	496-3416 / Cell Phone 765-490-1175
Email Address	<a href="mailto:logsdonr@purdue.edu">logsdonr@purdue.edu</a>
Office/Room Number	121

<b>Safety Manager if applicable</b>	
Name	Russell Logsdon
Phone Number	496-3416 / Cell Phone 765-490-1175
Email Address	<a href="mailto:logsdonr@purdue.edu">logsdonr@purdue.edu</a>
Office/Room Number	121

<b>List any other contacts, if applicable</b>	
Name	Becky Harding
Phone Number	494-4932
Email Address	<a href="mailto:rharding@purdue.edu">rharding@purdue.edu</a>
Office/Room Number	146

**Non-emergency Contact Numbers:**

- Purdue Fire Department: (PUFD) 494-6919
- Purdue Police Department: (PUPD) 494-8221
- Radiological and Environmental Management: 494-6371
- Physical Facilities Services: 494-9999
- Emergency Preparedness Office: 494-0446

**Automatic External Defibrillator (AED)**

Many departments have purchased AED (s) and placed them in locations throughout their building. If your facility has an AED (s), please fill out the following table:

<b>AED Location</b>	<b>Contact Person</b>	<b>Contact Person's Phone #</b>
Not Applicable		

For any questions about AED's or to report a purchase of one, please contact the Purdue Fire Department at 765-494-6919.

\*\*Building Deputy Quarterly AED Inspection & Checklist Report Click here\*\*

**Response to Alarms:**

**REMEMBER, WHEN YOU HEAR:**

- ALL HAZARDS OUTDOOR WARNING SIRENS immediately seek shelter (**Shelter-In-Place**) in a safe location within closest facility
- FIRE ALARMS immediately **evacuate** the building and move to a safe location

*In both cases, you should seek additional clarifying information by all possible means - Purdue Homepage, TV, radio, email, etc.*

**Emergency Evacuation**

**General Evacuation Procedures--If you hear the fire alarm or are instructed to leave the building:**

- You must immediately obey evacuation alarms and orders. Tell others to evacuate.

- No one may remain inside a building when an evacuation is in progress.
- Classes in session must cease and immediately evacuate the building.
- If involved with hazardous research or doing a dangerous procedure, immediately shut down operations that could create additional hazards if left unattended. Evacuate as soon as possible.
- When you evacuate, take keys, coat, purse and any other critical personal items with you to the Evacuation/Emergency Assembly Area (EAA). **REMEMBER, IN CASE OF A FIRE, IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOT DELAY EVACUATION.**
- Close doors as rooms are vacated.
- Assist those who need help, but do not put yourself at risk attempting to rescue trapped or injured victims.
- Note location of trapped and injured victims and notify emergency responders.
- Walk calmly but quickly to the nearest emergency exit.
- Use stairways only. **Do not use elevators.**
- Keep to the right side of corridors and stairwells as you exit.
- Remain in EAA until roll is taken and instructions are given.
- Do not reenter the building until authorized fire or police department personnel give the "All Clear" instruction.

### **Building Specific Evacuation Procedures**

Evacuation procedures must take into account any specific building and occupant needs. Add maps, exit routes, other steps, actions, or precautions specific to your building or work area.

Go out north or south exit doors.

### **Evacuation/Emergency Assembly Area (EAA) Location (after you have evacuated your building)**

Determine an Evacuation/Emergency Assembly Area (EAA -- roll call/head count area) away from the building and in a location that will not interfere with emergency personnel. Do your best to implement personnel accounting procedures. However, it is understood that many facilities (especially academic buildings) have incoming and outgoing students, faculty, staff, and visitors which makes a "headcount" very difficult to conduct. **The Building Deputy or representative should provide first responder personnel as much information as you know. Provide this information to Incident Command, Command 14 (PUFD command vehicle), or the nearest public safety official as soon as possible.**

- ***Primary location (should be outside, in an area away from the building):***

Go to the grass area between Bio-Med and Hockmeyer.

- **Secondary location (should be inside a nearby building in case of inclement weather):**

Go to the Bio-Med building in the lobby.

## Detailed Emergency Shelter in Place Procedures

Shelter in place means seeking immediate shelter inside a building or University residence. This course of action may need to be taken during a tornado, active threat (such as a shooting), release of hazardous materials in the outside air, or a civil disturbance. When you hear the sirens immediately go inside a building to a safe location and use all communication means available to find out more details about the emergency. Remain in place until police, fire, or other emergency response personnel provide additional guidance or tell you it is safe to leave.

**Types:** You may be required to Shelter In Place for events such as:

- Tornado warning or other severe weather events.
- Hazardous materials release.
- Active threat, such as a shooter.
- As directed by police personnel for any other situation that requires you to find protection within a building.

**When to Shelter in Place:** You must immediately seek shelter in the nearest facility or building (preferably in a room with no windows) when:

- You hear the All Hazards Outdoor Emergency Warning Sirens.
- When directed by police or fire department personnel.

**General Procedures:** Purdue ALERT, the University's emergency warning notification system, will be used to notify the Purdue community of a "shelter in place" situation.

If you are "sheltering" due to a **tornado warning**, immediately go to a safe location in your building.

- Proceed to the basement of any building that has a basement or sub-walk. Position yourself in the safest portion of the area away from glass. Be prepared to kneel facing a wall and cover your head.
- In high-rise (four stories or more) buildings, vacate the top floor and move to a lower floor or to the basement. Position yourself in an



interior corridor away from glass. Be prepared to kneel facing the wall and cover your head.

- If time permits, occupants of wood-frame or brick buildings with wood floors should leave the building and go directly to a more substantial concrete building, preferably with a basement.
- Any occupant who encounters a student or visitor should direct them to take appropriate actions.
- Any occupant that encounters a physically disabled individual should assist them if possible, or note the person's location and communicate it to emergency responders.
- Try and obtain additional clarifying information by all possible means (e.g. Purdue Campus Emergency Status page [www.purdue.edu/ea](http://www.purdue.edu/ea), TV, radio, email, etc.)

If you are "sheltering" due to an **active threat, building intruder or a civil disturbance** on campus, immediately go to a safe location in your building.

- If possible, take refuge in a room that can be locked.
- If possible, close and lock the building's or room's door(s). If unable to lock the door secure it by any means possible.
- Hide under a desk, in a closet, or in the corner.
- After getting to a safe location and without jeopardizing your safety, try and obtain additional clarifying information by all possible means (e.g. Purdue Emergency Status page [www.purdue.edu/ea](http://www.purdue.edu/ea), TV, radio, email, etc.)
- Report any suspicious activity if you can do so without jeopardizing your safety. Call or text 911 if possible.

If you are "sheltering" due to a **hazardous materials (HAZMAT)** accidental release of toxic chemicals the air quality may be threatened and sheltering in place keeps you inside an area offering more protection. For a HAZMAT situation you should, if possible, take the following actions:

- Close all windows and doors.
- Move to the shelter in place location.
- Do not go outside or attempt to drive unless you are specifically instructed to evacuate.
- Do not use elevators as they may pump air into or out of the building.
- Any occupant who encounters a student or visitor should direct them to take appropriate actions.
- Any occupant that encounters a physically disabled individual should assist them if possible.
- Try and obtain additional clarifying information by all possible means (e.g. Purdue Emergency Status page [www.purdue.edu/ea](http://www.purdue.edu/ea), TV, radio, email, etc.)

**Building Specific Shelter in Place Procedures and Locations:**

Shelter in place procedures must take into account any specific building and occupant needs. **Recommend you describe your shelter in place locations and procedures for a tornado warning, life threatening incident such as a shooting, and a major hazardous materials release.** Describe your building specific shelter in place procedures here:

***Shelter in Place Location:***

Go down the stairs on the north or south end of the building and stay in the stairway in the basement.

If you are directed to shelter in place, but you are unaware of the specific reason, proceed to the lowest level of the building but continue to seek additional information by all possible means to determine the type of incident. Once you have determined the type of emergency, follow the below chart:

<b>EMERGENCY</b>	<b>SHELTER IN PLACE OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION</b>
Weather-Related - Tornado Warning	Basement corridors, basement offices, basement restrooms Or the lowest level of the building (stay away from windows and doors)
Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) Release	Remain or find an unaffected office or work area and close windows and doors.
Active threat, such as a shooting	Seek a safe location, preferable a room without windows that can be locked or secured by barriers.

**All-Clear Procedures**

1. Do not re-enter the building until the all-clear announcement is given by a Purdue Police or Fire Officer.
2. The All Hazards Outdoor Warning Sirens will **not** be used to send an all clear signal. Seek additional information by all means possible to include Purdue ALERT, Purdue Campus Emergency Status webpage ([www.purdue.edu/ea](http://www.purdue.edu/ea)), TV and radio channels.

**Class suspension or Campus closure**

The President of the University, or in his or her absence, the Executive Vice President for Business and Finance, Treasurer and/or the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, will make a decision to declare class suspension or campus closure. Additional information will be forwarded to the campus community by the Marketing and Media Office.

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**Section 2: Information for Emergency Responder**

**2.1 Building Description**

Describe the building (e.g., number of floors and major uses of building) here.

There are three floors. This is a research building. There is a BSL3 lab on the first floor.

**2.2 Building Departments**

<u>Department</u>	<u>Safety Coordinator</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Room</u>
Biology	Russell Logsdon	63416	Hockmeyer	121

**2.3 Building Critical Operations**

Critical operations are any potentially hazardous operations located in your facility that requires preplanning for evacuation and/or shelter in place events. In this section, include information about critical operations that require special care during an emergency. Be sure to check with each department before completing this section. This information must be readily available to first responders to assist them in their emergency response efforts.

Employees may need to notify Purdue Fire about the following critical operations:

<u>Operation</u>	<u>Room</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Responsible Person</u>	<u>Phone</u>
BSL3 Lab	181	Biology	Richard Kuhn	41164

## 2.4 Building Alarm(s)

In addition to building fire alarm systems, many campus buildings have specialized alarms that building occupants may need to be aware of. These could include; freezer temperature alarms, HVAC flow alarms, doors / access alarms. Also, certain classrooms on campus may have an Alertus Emergency Beacon installed.

### ***Please list these alarms below:***

We have three important alarms.

Fire alarm very loud and building wide.

BSL3 Effluent tank alarm very loud and on the first floor east side of the building.

BSL3 alarm. If blue light is on it is a emergency.

If red light is on leave the area.

There is four alarms cold boxes, Autoclaves, Dishwashers and hoods. If these are alarming contact the Building Deputy.

## 2.5 Building Safety Committee

If your building has a safety committee, please list the committee members and positions (chair, vice-chair, other officers, members, etc.)

<b><u>Name &amp; Position</u></b>	<b><u>Department</u></b>	<b><u>Phone</u></b>	<b><u>Building</u></b>	<b><u>Room</u></b>
Russell Logsdon Convener	Biology	63416	Hockmeyer	121
Qing Deng	Biology	40423	Lilly Hall	G-231
Matt Olson	Biology	41254	Hansen	307
Kathy Anderson ex officio	Biology	60372	Lilly Hall	1-110

Matt  
Therkelsen  
Hockmeyer

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## **Section 3: BEP Responsibilities and Requirements**

### **3.1 Department Head or Designated Representative**

- Appoint the building deputy or designated representative to develop, coordinate, and distribute the BEP to building residents.
- Approve the plan prior to inclusion in the online BEP list on the Campus Emergency Preparedness and Planning Office BEP webpage.
- Ensure all people in their department are aware of the BEP and its content including exit routes and location of their Evacuation/Emergency Assembly area (EAA).

### **3.2 Building Deputy or an individual designated by the department head to prepare the BEP (BEP Developer)**

- Prepare, coordinate, and distribute the BEP to building occupants.
- Ensure the BEP is readily available and used during emergency incidents.
- Review the **BEP** to ensure information and procedures are current.
- List all **Critical Operations** in the BEP for first responder reference and use.
- Assist in the development of internal emergency notification procedures ensuring building occupants are notified of the emergency.
- Assist in building evacuation.
- Report to Emergency Assembly Area (EAA) -- Provide any incident information to Incident Command, Command 14 (PUFD command vehicle), or the nearest public safety official as soon as possible.
- Collect and provide essential information to emergency response personnel (e.g. location of incident, persons in building, special hazards, etc.).
- Develop additional building specific information that makes the BEP more effective (e.g. specific procedures for any assigned individual that requests additional assistance, evacuation maps, emergency assembly area, etc.).
- Include in the BEP any additional information as directed by the department head or the individual responsible for the building.

### **3.3 Building Occupants**

- Evacuate immediately upon Fire Alarm activation. Purdue policy requires immediate evacuation when any fire alarm sounds within a building. All faculty, staff, students and any other individuals within

the building must promptly evacuate the building using the nearest designated exit routes.

- Shut down electrical and other equipment, especially any that involves flame, explosive vapors, or hazardous materials.
- Follow instructions relevant to public safety issued by the building deputy, or fire and police personnel.
- Know the evacuation routes and location(s).
- Upon evacuation, proceed directly to their designated Evacuation/Emergency Assemble Area (EAA) and follow guidance provided by the building deputy (or designated safety representative) and emergency responders.
- Do not re-enter building until authorized to do so by fire or police department officials.
- All building occupants must be familiar with the BEP. **Read it carefully.** If you have any questions, consult your building deputy, department safety coordinator or safety committee representative. Keep the following tips in mind as you read through the document. *Be familiar with:*

- *The Purdue Emergency Warning Notification System—Purdue ALERT.*
- *When and how to evacuate the building.*
- *Know your evacuation routes, exit points, and location to report for roll call after evacuating the building.*
- *When and where to shelter in place within the building.*
- *Locations of emergency materials that may be needed in an emergency such as emergency telephones and fire pull alarms.*
- *Proper procedures for notifying emergency responders about an emergency in the building or work area (Call or Text 911 for emergency notification)*
- *Additional building specific procedures and requirements.*

### 3.4 Training

- Training is an integral part of the safety and preparedness program for your building. It is the responsibility of each department head and supervisor to ensure all building occupants are trained or made aware of the Building Emergency Plan for the building(s) they occupy.
- Building Deputies or BEP Developers are highly encouraged to practice evacuation and shelter in place to validate procedures and to ensure building occupants understanding. The exercise should be based on a simulated emergency event that highlights building shelter in place or evacuation procedures. Any lessons learned that require changes to the BEP should be incorporated into the BEP. Contact the Campus Emergency Preparedness and Planning Office for assistance in preparing an appropriate practice drill for your building.

### 3.5 BEP Requirements

- The BEP must be provided to all new employees as part of their departmental training. All employees should review their BEP frequently to ensure information and procedures are current. The Campus Emergency Preparedness and Planning Office will also review the BEP prior to publishing it to the BEP website.
- Contact the Assistant Director, Campus Emergency Preparedness and Planning at (765) 494-9269 for assistance as needed.

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## Section 4: Evacuation Guidelines for People Requesting Additional Assistance

General Policy (reference Appendix B for specific information that may be useful in developing your specific policy/procedures for your building):

1. Check on people with additional needs during an evacuation. A "buddy system," where people with additional needs arrange for volunteers (co-workers) to alert and assist them in an emergency is recommended.
2. **Only** attempt an emergency evacuation if you have had emergency assistance training **or** the person is in immediate danger and cannot wait for emergency services personnel.
3. **Always ask** someone requiring additional assistance how you can help **before** attempting any emergency evacuation assistance. Ask how he or she can best be assisted or moved, and whether there are any special considerations or items that need to come with the person.
4. An individual interested in additional assistance may fill out the "**Voluntary Registry for Persons Requesting Additional Assistance**" form located in Appendix C. Purdue Fire Department personnel will assist the individual in developing a personalized response plan for possible emergency incidents. Once all information has been entered on the form it should be hand carried to the Purdue Fire Department or sent by campus mail/U.S. Postal Service.

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# **APPENDICES**

## **Appendix A: Acronyms and Term Definitions**

### **Acronyms**

**AED:** Automated External Defibrillator

**BD:** Building Deputy

**BEP:** Building Emergency Plan

**EAA:** Emergency/Evacuation Assembly Area

**EPG:** Emergency Procedures Guide

**PUFD:** Purdue University Fire Department

**PUPD:** Purdue University Police Department

**REM:** Radiological and Environmental Management

### **Term Definitions**

**Automated External Defibrillator or AED** is a portable electronic device that automatically diagnoses the potentially life threatening cardiac arrhythmias of ventricular fibrillation and ventricular tachycardia in a patient, and is able to treat them through defibrillation, the application of electrical therapy which stops the arrhythmia, allowing the heart to reestablish an effective rhythm.

**All Hazards Outdoor Emergency Warning Sirens:** Tippecanoe County Emergency Management Agency controls activation of the siren system. (Purdue police department has access/can activate the seven sirens located on campus.) Sirens are part of the warning notification system for any major shelter in place event such as tornado warning, building intruder, active shooter, civil disturbance, hazardous material release or as deemed necessary by police personnel.

**Building Deputy:** The building deputy is a University employee who has a defined role in each campus building. In an emergency, the building deputy should report to the Incident Command location to provide building information to emergency responders. The "all clear" information will typically be communicated to the building deputy when it is safe to return to the building so that the occupants can be notified.



**Building Emergency Plan:** The plan is a document that consists of emergency procedures, activities for preparing for emergencies, and roles and responsibilities of building occupants.

**Critical Operations:** Any potentially hazardous operations located in your facility that requires preplanning for evacuation and/or shelter in place events. Additionally, this information must be readily available to first responders to assist them in their emergency response efforts.

**Emergency/Evacuation Assembly Area (EAA):** A pre-designated safe location near a building where building occupants assemble and report to the Roll Taker(s) after evacuating their building.

**Emergency Responder(s):** Person(s) who provide assistance in an emergency (or potential emergency) situation in a building. They are not building occupants and may be from Purdue University police department, Purdue fire department, REM, Physical Facilities, etc. In critical situations, they may take charge of the building and have full authority over activities in and around the building.

**Roll Taker:** A building occupant assigned to take roll at the emergency assembly area (EAA) after a building evacuation.

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## **Appendix B: Voluntary registry for persons requesting additional assistance**

[Download form in pdf format](#)

### **In the event of an emergency that may require the evacuation of a campus building, the following procedures are recommended:**

- If you are able to be evacuated, please do so at that time. Remember to use the stairs if able. Never use the elevator during a fire alarm.
- If not - shelter-in-place in an area with no immediate hazards and call or text 911. Advise the police dispatcher of your location. Even if the caller is unable to speak, the dispatcher will then automatically surmise that the caller may be in trouble and will respond accordingly.
- If you are unable to call 911, advise others around you of your location and have them inform emergency personnel of your location.
- If you are in no immediate danger, remain where you are and wait for emergency personnel to arrive.
- If you are in immediate danger, move to an area where you can shelter-in-place (recommended areas would be a room with an outside window or a room with a sprinkler system if available.)

- You are also encouraged to carry a sounding device like a small whistle, flashlight and cell phone to alert emergency personnel of your location.
- It is best to have arrangements pre-planned for evacuation assistance. Arrangements can be made to reasonably assure that assistance is provided to anyone who requires it. Having a plan and practicing it may save your life. Contact the Purdue Fire Department for arrangements or questions at (765) 494-6919.

**For further assistance in your personal emergency preparedness activities, please contact the Purdue University Campus Emergency Preparedness & Planning Office at (765) 494-9269 or visit our website at: [www.purdue.edu/ehps/emergency\\_preparedness/](http://www.purdue.edu/ehps/emergency_preparedness/)**

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## **Appendix C: INSTRUCTIONS FOR PERSONNEL ASSISTING THOSE NEEDING ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE**

**The following guidelines are general and may not apply in every circumstance.**

- Occupants should be invited to volunteer ahead of time to assist people with disabilities in an emergency. If a volunteer is not available, designate someone to assist who is willing to accept the responsibility.
- Two or more trained volunteers, if available, should conduct the evacuation.
- **ALWAYS ASK** people with disabilities how you can help **before** attempting any emergency evacuation assistance. Ask how they can best be assisted or moved, and if there are any special considerations or items that need to come with them.
- Try to avoid evacuating people who use wheelchairs while they are still in their wheelchairs. This is standard practice to ensure the safety of people with disabilities and volunteers. Wheelchairs will be evacuated later if possible.
- Proper lifting techniques (e.g. bending the knees, keeping the back straight, holding the person close before lifting, and using leg muscles to lift) should be used to avoid injury to rescuer's backs. Certain lifts may need to be modified, depending on the disabilities of the people. Volunteers can obtain more emergency evacuation information regarding lifting techniques from the Office of Institutional Equity.

### **Tips to remember when interacting with people with specific disabilities**

Blindness or Visual Impairment

- Provide verbal instructions to advise of the safest route or direction using simple directions, estimated distances, and directional terms.
- DO NOT grasp a visually impaired person's arm. Ask if he or she would like to hold onto your arm as you exit, especially if there is debris or a crowd.
- Give other verbal instructions or information (i.e. elevators cannot be used).

### Deafness or Hearing Impairment

- Get the attention of a person with a hearing impairment by establishing eye contact. If the person's back is toward you, tap him/her on the shoulder to get his/her attention. Clearly state the problem. Gestures and pointing are helpful, but be prepared to write a brief statement if the person does not seem to understand.
- Offer visual instructions to advise of safest route or direction by pointing toward exits or evacuation maps.

### Mobility Impairment

- It may be necessary to help clear the exit route of debris (if possible).
- If people with mobility impairments cannot exit, they should move to a safer area, e.g.
  - Most enclosed stairwells.
  - An office with the door shut which is a good distance from the hazard (and away from falling debris in the case of earthquake). Call 911 or notify police or fire personnel immediately about any people remaining in the building and their locations.
- Police or fire personnel will decide whether people are safe where they are, and will evacuate them as necessary. The Fire Department may determine that it is safe to override the rule against using elevators.
- If people are in immediate danger and cannot be moved to a safer area to wait for assistance, it may be necessary to evacuate them using an evacuation chair or a carry technique.

### Summary

Prepare occupants in your building ahead of time for emergency evacuations. Know your building occupants. Train staff, faculty, and students to be aware of the needs of people with disabilities and to know how to offer assistance. Hold evacuation and shelter in place drills in which occupants participate, and evaluate drills to identify areas that need improvement. Plans must cover regular working hours, after hours, and weekends. Everyone needs to take responsibility for preparing for emergencies. People with disabilities should consider what they would do and whether they need to take additional steps to prepare. For additional

emergency preparedness information, see  
[www.purdue.edu/ehps/emergency\\_preparedness](http://www.purdue.edu/ehps/emergency_preparedness).

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