THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Office of Emergency Management safety.gwu.edu | oem@gwu.edu | O @GWsafety | X @GWAlert





FIRE

- If you sense smoke or fire call 911
- Leave the building immediately using the closest emergency exit, do not use elevators
- Move away from the front of the building and only reenter when instructed by first responders
- If unable to exit the building, go to the nearest exit stairwell or safe area of refuge and call 911



SEVERE WEATHER

- Monitor Campus Advisories and local media and news
- Follow shelter instructions
- Weather Terms:
 - Watch: Conditions are favorable for or severe weather is expected
 - Warning: Severe weather is occurring or imminent



MEDICAL EMERGENCY

- Call GW Emergency Services (202-994-6111) or 911 immediately
- Provide the location, nature of injury or illness, current condition of the patient, and other requested information
- Remain on the phone until directed to hang up
- Stay with the patient and do not move them unless they are in immediate danger



HAZARDOUS MATERIAL RELEASE

- Restrict access and do not attempt to clean the material
- Evacuate the area and report the hazardous spill to GW Emergency Services (202-994-6111)
- If the release or spill has the potential to impact a larger area, notify first responders of that potential and follow their directions



ARMED INTRUDER OR ACTIVE SHOOTER

- Call 911 as soon as it is safe to do so
- RUN If there is an accessible escape route: leave your belongings behind and evacuate as quickly as possible; keep your hands visible and follow law enforcement instructions; evacuate whether or not others agree to follow
- HIDE If you cannot evacuate: hide out of the shooter's view; lock and barricade doors with heavy furniture; silence your phone and wait for first responders
- FIGHT As a last resort, attempt to disrupt and/or incapacitate the shooter: devise a plan; throw objects and improvise weapons; act aggressively; commit to your actions

PROTECTIVE ACTIONS

In the event of an emergency, protective actions should be followed. They may include:



SHELTER

• Follow the safety guidance provided for the specific hazard (tornado, earthquake, hazardous material spill, or another environmental emergency)



EVACUATE

- Move to a designated location as instructed by first responders and university officials
- Leave belongings behind



SECURE

- When there is a threat or hazard outside of the building or around campus: go inside and stay inside
- Increased security and restricted access to campus buildings will be in place



LOCKDOWN

- When there is a threat or hazard with potential to impact individuals inside buildings: lock interior doors, turn off the lights, and stay out of sight of any corridor window
- Consider Run, Hide, Fight



ASSISTING PEOPLE WITH ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

- Blind or Visually Impaired:
 - Clearly announce the emergency
 - Offer your arm for guidance
 - Lead the person and alert them of obstacles
- Deaf or Hard of Hearing:
 - Turn lights on and off to gain the person's attention
 - Indicate directions with gestures or in writing
- Physical Disabilities:
 - Guide the person to the nearest exit stairwell or safe area of refuge, do not use elevators
 - Call GW Emergency Services (202-994-6111) or 911 to report your location



SUSPICIOUS PERSON, PACKAGE, OR MAIL

- Do not open the suspicious item(s), do not confront a suspicious person or let them into a locked building
- Call GW Emergency Services (202-994-6111) or 911 and provide a detailed description of the item(s) or person
- Leave the area and close doors behind you



BOMB THREAT

- Obtain as much information as possible from the caller including location, details of the device, and noticeable characteristics of the caller
- Have a nearby person call GW Emergency Services (202-994-6111) and relay information to them