

GW Campus Emergency Information

GW Emergency Services: 202-994-6111

For situation-specific instructions, please refer to [GW's Emergency Procedures guide](#).

GW Alert

GW Alert is an emergency notification system that sends alerts to the GW community. GW requests students, faculty, and staff maintain current contact information by logging into alert.gwu.edu. Alerts are sent via email, text, social media, and other means, including the Guardian app. The Guardian app is a safety app that allows you to communicate quickly with GW Emergency Services, 911, and other resources. Learn more at safety.gwu.edu.

Protective Actions

GW prescribes four protective actions that can be issued by university officials depending on the type of emergency. All GW community members are expected to follow directions according to the specified protective action. The protective actions are Shelter, Evacuate, Secure, and Lockdown. Learn more at safety.gwu.edu/gw-standard-emergency-statuses.



Shelter

- Protection from a specific hazard
- The hazard could be a tornado, earthquake, hazardous material spill, or other environmental emergency
- Specific safety guidance will be shared on a case-by-case basis

Action

Follow the safety guidance for the hazard

Evacuate

- Need to move people from one location to another
- Students and staff should be prepared to follow specific instructions given by first responders and university officials

Action

Evacuate to a designated location

Leave belongings behind

Follow additional instructions from first responders

Secure

- Threat or hazard outside of the building or around campus
- Increased security, secured building perimeter, increased situational awareness, and restricted access to entry doors

Action

Go inside and stay inside

Activities inside may continue

Lockdown

- Threat or hazard with the potential to impact individuals inside buildings
- Room-based protocol that requires locking the interior doors, turning off the lights, and staying out of sight of any corridor window

Action

Locks, lights, out of sight

Consider Run, Hide, Fight

Classroom Emergency Lockdown Buttons

All classrooms have been equipped with classroom emergency lockdown buttons. If the button is pushed, GWorld Card access to the room will be disabled, and GW Dispatch will be alerted. The door must be manually closed if it is not closed when the button is pushed. Anyone in the classroom will be able to exit, but no one will be able to get in.