CERT
Community Emergency Response Team
University of Southern California
Fire Safety & Emergency Planning

MISSION:
To ensure the safety of members of the USC community and the continuity of the university’s mission by establishing emergency preparedness and fire safety programs.

STAFF:
Bill Regensburger, Angela DiBenedetto, Rob Forsberg, Steve Goldfarb, Jeff Pendley, Eric Liu, Melvin Brown, Jarrin Black
The BAD News…

- Disasters are inevitable
- MOST PEOPLE ARE UNPREPARED
Chemical/Biological Attack

Drought

Power Outage

Train Derailment

Cyber - Terrorism

Mudslide
Volunteer team:

- Provide emergency assistance to the Trojan community on campus
- Respond to emergencies and disasters. Assist with special events.
- Help Fire Safety & Emergency Planning Office educate and prepare USC and the community

- SAVE LIVES, HELP PEOPLE
#1 Job of CERT

1. Take care of yourself first
2. Then help others on campus

- YOU ARE #1!
  - YOUR safety is always the first priority!
NORMAL  Emergency Svcs

EMERGENCY

LA Emergency Services Arrive Quickly

County, State, Federal Resources Available
The Good News… It is easy to become prepared

We will learn all the skills to be so well prepared that we will be able to help our USC Community.

SELF-HELP
What You Have Signed Up For
CERT Sessions

- Earthquake
- Fire Suppression
- Disaster Medical Operations I
- Disaster Medical Operations II
- Search & Rescue Operations
- Disaster Psychology
- Final Drill
There are hundreds of EQ faults in Southern California, and most of the region will experience strong shaking at some point.
Northridge Earthquake

- Jan. 17, 1994
- Magnitude 6.7
- Strong shaking near epicenter
- 7 Seconds
- Over 40,000 Injured
- 57 deaths
PUENTE HILLS FAULT

Potential 6.8 Mg Quake

Similar Mag. To 1994 Northridge EQ Directly Beneath Central LA

[SCEC, 2005]

Peak Ground Velocity (cm/sec)
7.8 Mg. San Andreas EQ

- Strong ground shaking
- Geographically widespread
- Duration 1-2 minutes
- OVERDUE
7.8 San Andreas EQ

Expectations:

- 300,000 Damaged Buildings
- 1,800 Fatalities
- 53,000 Injured
- 255,000 Homeless
- 1,600 FIRES
- $200-300 Billion Damage
OVERALL EQ. RISK

- 75 million Americans in 39 states face significant risk

- Residents of California face the highest risk (17 million people) followed by residents of western Washington State

- 90% probability of a major earthquake in Southern California next 20 years

- Almost every area of the region will experience strong ground shaking at some point
Earthquake Response

• Kobe Japan 1995
• 7.1
What Not To Do

Don’t Run Outside!

No Doorways!
The main hazard is **FALLING OBJECTS**
During the Earthquake:

DROP, COVER, AND HOLD ON!
WHAT IF?

- You are in bed?
- You are in a car?
- You are in a theatre?
- You are in a supermarket?
You can’t control how an earthquake will *shake* you.

But you can control how an earthquake will *harm* you.
Prepare

Water:
- Minimum 2-weeks Supply
- 2 gallon/person/day
- Rotate every 6 months
- Be ready to purify
Supplies

Food

- More of the foods you normally eat
- Canned food = no cooking (can opener?)
- Low sodium
- Comfort food
Supplies

Essential Medicines

- Minimum 2-weeks supply
- Never take “last one”
- Prescription glasses
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Supplies</th>
<th>Evacuation Bag</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flashlight</td>
<td>Change of clothes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transistor radio</td>
<td>Personal hygiene supplies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work gloves</td>
<td>Contact lists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Aid Supplies</td>
<td>Critical papers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas shut-off wrench</td>
<td>(insurance, medical history, deed, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic &amp; duct tape</td>
<td>Cash</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prepare

Family Emergency Plan

- Evacuation Plan
- Duck, Cover and Hold Drill
- Family Reunion Plan
- Out-of-State Contacts
Secure Your...

Top Heavy Furniture

Flexible Nylon Straps
Secure Your…

Bookshelf and Shelving Contents

Books, videocassettes, binders, miscellaneous items on shelves can be secured by using a series of restraints appropriate to the shelf.

Shelves should be secured within cases with proper supports.
Secure Your... TVs and electronics

Peel and press nylon straps and buckles
Secure Your...

Wall Hangings

Step one
Prepare back of frame

Step two
Use closed hooks

Change glass to Plexi-Glass
Secure Your…
Decorative Items and Breakables

- Earthquake Putty
- Museum Wax
Unsecured cabinet doors fly open during earthquakes, allowing glassware and dishes to crash to the floor.

Many types of latches are available to prevent this: child-proof latches, hook and eye latches, or positive catch latches designed for boats.
Secure Your… Gas Appliances

Replace rigid gas connections to water heaters and other gas appliances, with flexible stainless-steel gas connectors.

Secure the appliance to wall studs.

Backup Plan: Keep extra flexible connectors in case of breakage and plumbers being unavailable.
Reduce/Eliminate Hazards

The bedroom should be the safest room in your home.
Structural Hazard Mitigation

- Bolt older houses to the foundations (pre-1950)
- Automatic shutoffs for utilities.
- Strap mobile homes to their slabs.
- Have engineer check foundation, roof connectors, chimney, building structural support.
- Buy earthquake insurance
Prepare

Utility Shutoff

- Gas
- Electricity
- Water
Utility Shutoffs - Gas

Have wrench stored in a specific location where it will be immediately available.
Shutting Off Natural Gas

Which Natural Gas Valve is in the Closed position?

Bar in a vertical position.  **INCORRECT**

Bar in a horizontal position.  **CORRECT!**
Utility Shutoffs - Electrical

Modern circuit breakers  Older
fuse box
Utility Shutoffs - Water

Water Shut-Off

[Diagram of a water shut-off valve with labels: OFF, ON, and a label for quick identification]

This is the on position

[Photo of a water shut-off valve in the ground, showing the on position]
After the Earthquake

- Don’t rush outside, unless there is danger from fire or structural damage
After the Earthquake

- Check for injured, missing or trapped persons.
- Check for hazards (utilities, chemical spills, broken glass, etc.)
- Prepare for aftershocks.
- Refrain from using the telephone (except to report life-threatening emergencies).
After the Earthquake

- Walk the perimeter of your home or office building to look for hazards.

- If you smell gas, see fire, smoke or other hazards, evacuate.
Impact on USC

- Hundreds of injuries, possibly some fatalities
- Damage to many buildings; people possibly trapped
- Power outage, Gas and water leaks,
- Communication systems disrupted
- Fires, chemical spills in labs

Emergency services unavailable – on our own for several days
USC Has A Plan

USC Emergency Plans & Resources
USC Emergency Operations Plan

PRIORITIES

1. Ensure safety and well-being of students, staff, faculty
2. Protect university property and assets
3. Re-establish university mission, teaching, and research
4. Assist neighborhood & community
Department Operations Centers
Emergency Medical Plan

Goal: 0 Fatalities
- Engemann Student Health Center maintains Mass Casualty Plan
- CERT, School of Dentistry, Athletics, EMSC, & Pharmacy are apart of the response team
CERT
Campus Emergency Response Team
Damage Assessment & Repair

Team leader: Facilities Management
Support: Housing

Perform rapid inspection of all buildings to ensure safety

- Complete emergency repairs or shutoffs
- Post buildings “OPEN” or “CLOSED”
Systematic team approach.
FMS in the lead
ASSESSMENT PRIORITIES:

1. RESIDENTIAL & MEDICAL BUILDINGS
2. LABORATORY RESEARCH BUILDINGS
3. ALL OTHER BUILDINGS
Each building will be posted

CLOSED
THIS FACILITY IS TEMPORARILY CLOSED.
DO NOT ENTER OR OCCUPY.

For information, call Facilities Operation and Maintenance. 740-6833 (UPC) or 224-7001 (HSC)
DATE:_________ TIME:_________

DO NOT REMOVE THIS PLACARD

OPEN
This facility has been inspected for damage and safety hazards, and may be occupied.

For information, call Facilities Operation and Maintenance. 740-6833 (UPC) or 224-7001 (HSC)
DATE:_________ TIME:_________

DO NOT REMOVE THIS PLACARD
Facility Recovery Arrangements:

Belfor Company on retainer

Also pre-disaster agreement with earthquake engineers
Hazardous Chemical Spill Response Team (Lab Bldgs.)

Haz Mat & Environmental Health & Safety
Fire/Emergency Medical Response Vehicle
Emergency Food Service

Leader:
Hospitality Svcs.
Emergency drinking water
Emergency Shelter & Housing

Housing Services & Residential Education
Emergency Transportation

Transportation Services
Satellite Capabilities
Amateur Radio Communications

- Staff and Faculty Team Members at UPC, HSC, Marina Del Rey, Catalina Island & Verdugo Hills Hospital
Emergency Equipment Containers

Numerous items including:
- Lighting
- Tools
- Generators
- Spill Supplies
- Crowd Control Equipment
- Command Post Equipment
USC Emergency Communications

213-740-9233
http://emergency.usc.edu

TrojansAlert
emergency notification system
Trojansalert.usc.edu
Emergency Teams in All Buildings
(Building Emergency Response Teams)
Emergency Supply Kits

Emergency Supply Kit

Disaster First Aid Kit
DRILLS

Drop, Cover & Hold Drill

Department Operations Center Drill
Business Recovery Planning

- Business Continuity Plans
  - Schools
  - Departments

- Disaster Financial Recovery Plan

- Disaster Space Management Plan

- ITS Disaster Recovery Plans
INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM (ICS)

- Maintain safety of disaster workers.
- Provide clear leadership and organizational structure.
- Improve effectiveness of rescue efforts.
Basic ICS Structure

- Incident Commander
  - Operations Section Chief
  - Logistics Section Chief
  - Planning Section Chief
  - Administration Section Chief
CERT Activation

Automatic:

- Following a large-scale incident:
  - check your immediate work area
  - address life-safety issues
  - report to the CERT Staging Area
    - UPC: Parking Lot 6 (Michaelson Parking Lot)
    - HSC: CHP Parking Lot (facing Eastlake)
  - Check-in and report any life-safety issues
CERT Activation

Call-Outs:

- Trojans Alert will be the primary communication method to request all CERT members to report to the staging area or alternate location.
- Always wear your CERT Identification and personal protective equipment.
- Drills are conducted a few times per year at UPC and HSC.
More Info Sources

- Visit www.lafd.org/blog
- Visit www.readyla.org
- Visit www.alert.lacounty.gov
- Visit www.ready.gov
Stay Connected

- American Red Cross Safe and Well
- Facebook
- Alert.lacounty.gov
- Twitter
Are you ready?