

34.07 Emergency Management

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Policy Statement

The Texas A&M University System (system) is responsible for ensuring its members have plans in place to properly protect personnel and property in an emergency situation. By requiring that each system member has a plan or plans to address various situations and by reviewing these plans on a regular basis, the system can ensure each member is fulfilling its responsibilities to its constituents.

Reason for Policy

The purpose of this policy is to ensure each system member has a plan and that the plan is sufficient to protect human life and property under the control of each system member.

Procedures and Responsibilities

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 The chancellor shall establish for the System Offices (SGO), and shall approve for each system member upon recommendation from the respective chief executive officers (CEOs), a management plan or plans to deal with various emergencies which might threaten system resources and the physical safety of employees, students, clientele, and the general public.
- 1.2 Such plans should take an all-hazards approach to cover natural disasters, fire, industrial accidents, criminal activities, health epidemics, riots, and similar situations which require the orderly management of resources and processes to protect life and property. Each such plan shall provide for effective means of communication with employees, students, clientele, and the general public.

2. UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES

In the development of such emergency management plans, the following underlying principles shall apply:

- 2.1 The protection of human life and health is of the utmost importance.
- 2.2 System property and other resources shall be protected and preserved wherever possible, consistent with the primacy of human health and safety.
- 2.3 The system shall, whenever possible, assist federal, state and local governments, emergency management and relief agencies, etc., and may allocate facilities, equipment and personnel to assist in the event of natural disasters.
- 2.4 The system shall cooperate with federal, state and local disaster management and law enforcement agencies with respect to any emergency occurring on system property and/or involving system personnel or students.
- 2.5 Plans should provide for coordination of appropriate system member employees, such as physical plant, campus security, student affairs, health services, etc., and for the designation of a single individual as coordinator supported, if desired, by a designated emergency management team.
- 2.6 The System Office of General Counsel shall be consulted in cases where the legal responsibilities of the system are unclear.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1 Communications shall be from the chancellor, or designee, with respect to emergencies affecting the SO or the system as a whole, and from the respective CEO, or designee, with respect to emergencies affecting a specific system member.
- 3.2 The CEO shall inform the chancellor and the executive secretary of the Board of Regents (board) of any emergency that has occurred or that is threatening life, health, or system property, and give periodic status reports as information is available. The executive secretary of the board shall, in turn, keep board members properly informed.
- 3.3 Appropriate information shall be provided routinely to system employees and students to enable their cooperation in a potential emergency.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[Texas Governor's Executive Order RP40](#)

[Homeland Security Presidential Directive/HSPD-5](#)

[Homeland Security Presidential Directive/HSPD-8](#)

[National Incident Management System \(NIMS\)](#)

[Texas Governor's Division of Emergency Management Local Emergency Management Planning Guide \(GDEM 10\), January 2008](#)

[National Fire Prevention Administration \(NFPA\) 1600 Standard on Disaster/Emergency Management and Business Continuity Programs, 2007](#)

Contact Office

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