



Emergency Reference Guide

SEVERE WEATHER

Due to its location in the Greater Los Angeles area the CSU Long Beach campus may occasionally be subject to severe weather. In the event of such an incident the follow guidelines should be followed.

Wind Related

Campus Community

Although rare, severe windstorms and tornados can occur in the Los Angeles Area.

If a severe windstorm occurs take cover in a building along an interior wall staying away from windows.

- Drop to your knees with your back to the windows and knees together
- Clasp both hands behind your head covering your neck
- Leaning over bury your face between your arms and legs.
- Close your eyes tightly.
- Try to remain calm and stay in place until the windstorm stops
- As soon as possible move away from windows and overhead fixtures.

Remain inside if it is safe otherwise evacuate the area

University Administration / University Police

The National Weather Service will be monitored for alerts and weather advisories.

- A windstorm “Watch” is issued when a thunderstorm is expected to have winds in excess of 55 mph or a tornado may develop as a result of the storm and the storm is expected to move into a specific area
- A windstorm “Warning” is issued when a thunderstorm has winds in excess of 55 mph or a tornado has developed and is within an expected area.

Following a severe windstorm assess the campus for injured persons and/or damaged facilities.

Any campus facility sustaining damage may be ordered evacuated for safety reasons. Any ordered evacuation is mandatory and will last until a damage assessment is completed and determination of habitability is made by a competently trained and authorized inspector.

University Police will normally maintain incident command on any multi-jurisdictional response to the incident. However, in the event of a mass casualty or search and rescue operation incident command will normally be transitioned to the Long Beach Fire Department upon their arrival at the incident.



The University Police Incident Commander will be responsible for ensuring that the appropriate level of notifications are made to the University Police Administration and that the appropriate reports are filed detailing the incident.

Lightning

Although somewhat rare in Southern California lightning storms pose a very serious threat to the well-being of the CSU Long Beach campus community. In the event of a lightning storm the following guidelines should be followed.

Campus Community

If you are **OUTSIDE** when a thunder/lightning storm moves into the area. **GO INTO A BUILDING OR FULL ENCLOSED VEHICLE.**

- AVOID all metal objects such as fences and machinery, trees, open shelters, high ground, open spaces, and water.
- REMAIN inside for at LEAST 30 minutes following the LAST strike in the area.

If you are outside in a storm and feel your hair standing on end and/or hear “crackling noises” you are in lightning’s electric field. **A LIGHTNING STRIKE IN YOUR IMMEDIATE AREA IS IMMINENT.**

- If you cannot *immediately* get inside you should *immediately* remove all metal objects (including: cell phones, radios, ball caps, backpacks), place your feet together, duck your head, and crouch down low in a baseball catchers stance with your hands on your knees. Seek shelter inside a fixed building as soon as it is safe to move.

People who have been struck by lightning DO NOT carry an electrical charge. It is safe to render first aid to a victim.

University Administration / University Police

The National Weather Service will be monitored for alerts and weather advisories.

- A thunderstorm “Watch” is issued when a thunderstorm is expected to into a specific area
- A thunderstorm “Warning” is issued when a thunderstorm has developed and is within an expected area.

Following the thunderstorm assess the campus for injured persons and/or damaged facilities.

University Police will normally maintain incident command on any multi-jurisdictional response to the incident. However, in the event of a mass casualty incident command will normally be transitioned to the Long Beach Fire Department upon their arrival at the incident.



The University Police Watch Commander will be responsible for ensuring that the appropriate level of notifications are made to the University Police Administration and that the appropriate reports are filed detailing the incident.

Heat Related

Campus Community

If severe or intense heat is predicted reduce outdoor activity to a minimum.

Drink plenty of hydrating fluids, such as water, and wear sunscreen.

If you witness a person overcome by heat or feel yourself being overcome by heat seek medical attention immediately.

- Contact the University Police at 9-1-1.

University Administration / University Police

During periods of intense heat outdoor physical activity should be limited.

Supervisors should encourage employees to drink water frequently.

Smog Alert

When the Air Quality Management District notifies the CSU Long Beach campus that a smog alert is in effect for the area the following steps should be taken.

Campus Community

Anyone observing a member of the campus community having respiratory distress should contact the University Police at 9-1-1.

University Administration / University Police

The agency notified should contact the Office of Safety and Risk Management and report the notification.

During a **First Stage Smog Alert** all vigorous and strenuous activities should be reduced or shortened.

During a **Second Stage Smog Alert** all forms of vigorous activity must be discontinued or cancelled.

During a **Third Stage Smog Alert** students, staff, and faculty should remain indoors and restrict movement as much as possible.

During any smog alert try to reduce or eliminate the use of University vehicles and/or gas powered engines as much as possible.



Return to Normal Operations

If the incident has resulted in the evacuation of part or all of a campus building(s) then those areas will remain closed until the University determines:

- The area is safe to occupy
- All immediate police and rescue activity has been completed.
- Any and all investigations or repairs have been completed.
- There is no longer a need to keep the area closed.

NOTE: Some areas may remain closed longer than others.