

SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

THE GREAT CALIFORNIA SHAKEOUT

Significant earthquakes have the potential to lead to unprecedented disasters. Given the likelihood of earthquakes in California, schools must prepare for this type of emergency. The Great California ShakeOut on October 19, 2023, is a perfect opportunity to educate your staff and students on your earthquake preparedness plan.

In support of your District's efforts, ASCIP can assist you in preparing for and conducting effective drills. You may contact your Risk Services Consultant for further assistance.

Best Practices for Earthquake Safety

In the event of an earthquake, swift and informed action can make all the difference. Here are some key steps to keep in mind:

- ❖ **Drop, Cover, and Hold On:** Remember this fundamental procedure to protect yourself during shaking. Drop to the ground, take cover under a sturdy object, and hold on until the shaking stops.
- ❖ **Securing the Environment:** Anchor heavy items such as bookshelves and cabinets to prevent them from becoming hazards during an earthquake.
- ❖ **Emergency Supplies:** Confirm that each classroom is equipped with an emergency kit containing essential supplies like water, non-perishable food, first aid items, a flashlight, and batteries.
- ❖ **Emergency Contacts:** In the case of a disruption in communications systems, have a readily accessible list of emergency contacts.
- ❖ **Familiarize Yourself:** Know the locations of fire extinguishers, first aid kits, and established evacuation routes within the school.

Post-Drill Review

After the ShakeOut drill, take a moment to reflect on the experience. This collective exercise provides an invaluable opportunity to identify strengths and areas for improvement in our emergency response protocols.



Additional Resources

ASCIP encourages members to contact your local fire and police to participate in your scheduled drill.

For more information and resources, visit:

- ❖ The Great California ShakeOut for Drill Manuals and Safety Guidelines:
<https://www.shakeout.org/california/>
- ❖ FEMA Mobile Apps:
<https://www.fema.gov/about/news-multimedia/mobile-products>
- ❖ Red Cross Emergency Apps:
<https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/mobile-apps.html>
- ❖ Employees can prepare to survive and recover at home by following the Seven Steps to Safety:
www.EarthquakeCountry.org/sevensteps

Helping to keep our member's employees safe! This Safety Spotlight brought to you by: