

SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

THE GREAT CALIFORNIA SHAKEOUT

Every year, millions participate in [The Great California ShakeOut](#), a statewide earthquake drill designed to enhance preparedness and response. This year's event will take place on Thursday, October 17, 2024, at 10:17 AM. This annual drill not only raises earthquake awareness but also prepares your district by providing strategies to effectively respond to and reduce the risks associated with earthquakes.



Why Participate?

California has a 99% likelihood of experiencing a magnitude 6.7 or larger earthquake in the next 30 years¹, making it critical for districts to take proactive steps in preparedness. Practicing drills, like those conducted during the Great ShakeOut, enhances response times and safety, helping to protect both lives and property during seismic events.

Earthquake Safety Tips for Schools and Colleges:

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

✓ Familiarize everyone with the "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" technique. Drop to the ground, take cover under a sturdy object, and hold on until the shaking stops.



- ✓ Anchor heavy items such as bookshelves and cabinets to prevent them from becoming hazards during an earthquake.
- ✓ In the case of a disruption in communications systems, have a readily accessible list of emergency contacts.
- ✓ Review your district's emergency response plan. Know the locations of fire extinguishers, first aid kits, and established evacuation routes within the school.
- ✓ Confirm that sites are equipped with an emergency kit containing essential supplies like water, non-perishable food, first aid items, a flashlight, and batteries. Go to [Ready.Gov](#) for tips.

Additional Resources

For more information and resources, visit:

- ❖ [The Great California ShakeOut](#) for Drill Manuals and Safety Guidelines <https://www.shakeout.org/california/>
- ❖ [MyShake App](#) a free mobile application that provides real-time earthquake information and alerts based on the user's location: <https://myshake.berkeley.edu/>
- ❖ [Earthquake Country Alliance](#) offers free resources to help individuals and communities prepare for earthquakes. www.EarthquakeCountry.org/sevensteps

Please contact your ASCIP Risk Services Consultant or our Risk Services team at RM_Info@ascip.org for questions or to discuss further.

¹ U.S. Geological Survey. (2008, April 15). California has more than 99% chance of a big earthquake within 30 years, report shows. ScienceDaily. Retrieved October 4, 2024, from <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/04/080414203459.htm>.

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