



Emergency Preparedness for New Students

Emergencies can happen at any time, often without warning. Caltech has plans and response teams prepared to respond to emergencies including natural and human induced disasters. These plans are continuously reviewed and exercised to ensure a state of readiness.

Caltech's [Emergency Preparedness website](#) provides information on emergency procedures, training opportunities, and resources on personal preparedness.

There are a few things every new student should do in order to be prepared for emergency situations.

1. Learn what to do in emergency situations:

- Take time to learn specific [emergency procedures](#) for responding to particular events e.g. earthquakes. This information can be found on the Caltech Student Resources (CSR) app and the Caltech [Emergency Preparedness website](#)
- Once on campus, students will be provided with additional information about their residence's emergency plan, evacuation routes, and assembly area.

2. Stay connected and be informed

- During an emergency, official information will be sent through [Caltech Alerts](#) and posted on [the Caltech website](#).
- Keep your personal contact information up to date in [access.caltech.edu](#) to ensure you will receive emergency information. Please include a current cell phone number to receive Caltech Alerts via text and phone call. Students can add family contact information to the "add another phone" option.
- Download the Everbridge App. You will receive Caltech Alerts and be able to communicate with Campus Security directly. [Instructions for download](#).
- Make a communication plan for your family, including how everyone will reach each other in different situations. If you live locally, identify an out-of-state contact in case Los Angeles area codes become overwhelmed. A text message may be the best way to get in touch.

3. Prepare a personal emergency kit

- You can make one or buy one from a variety of vendors or at the Caltech Bookstore. In addition to basic emergency supplies such as: water, non-perishable food, and a flashlight, keep an extra supply of personal items you might need. This might include any essential medications, spare glasses and/or contacts etc. Keep supplies in an easy-to-carry bag that you can take with you in case you must evacuate. If you decide to order from the bookstore, it can be delivered to your on-campus residence.