



This message is being sent to all employees on behalf of the District’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC). While we continue to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, the coronavirus epidemic is not the only potential emergency we face. **Every year, Californians are urged to participate in the [Great Shakeout](#), held tomorrow, October 21, 2021, at 10:21 a.m.** Participating in the event could save your life. Remember, it is not a matter of “if” a major earthquake will strike in California, but only a matter of “when” it will. Will you be ready?

This year, many of our colleges are sending out information about emergency preparedness and earthquake safety or are also designing small-scale drills for those employees and students who will be onsite, in person, tomorrow. Please consider not only your work situation, but your emergency preparedness at home—and please don’t forget about your animal companions who will depend on you in an emergency!

The “Shake Out” information below was developed by our friends and colleagues over at Los Angeles Valley College. Our sincere thanks to Sarah Song, Vice President of Administrative Services, and President Gribbons, for providing this to the EOC to share districtwide. In addition to the great info below from LAVC, here are some additional links and resources:

State of California, Office of Emergency Services, earthquake preparedness [website portal](https://earthquake.ca.gov/) -- <https://earthquake.ca.gov/>

Get [Prepared](https://earthquake.ca.gov/get-prepared/) -- <https://earthquake.ca.gov/get-prepared/>

Higher Education [Toolkit for earthquakes](https://earthquake.ca.gov/get-prepared/toolkit-higher-education-fall-2021/) -- <https://earthquake.ca.gov/get-prepared/toolkit-higher-education-fall-2021/>

How to get earthquake [alerts](https://earthquake.ca.gov/get-alerts/) in California -- <https://earthquake.ca.gov/get-alerts/>

National “Ready.gov” [website](https://www.ready.gov/)





Millions of people worldwide will practice how to [Drop, Cover, and Hold On](#) at **10:21 a.m. on October 21**

during [Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drills](#), which began in California in 2008. Please plan on participating in this **60-second earthquake drill**.



In a CLASSROOM / ROOM / AUDITORIUM:

- **Drop** to the floor. Do not try to exit during shaking.
- **Cover** your head and neck with one hand and seek shelter under your desk or table as best as possible.
If in an auditorium with no tables, take cover between the rows of chairs.
- **Hold on** to the leg of the desk/table with your other hand.

In a LABORATORY:

- Step back from the lab table.
- **Drop** to the floor on your knees next to a wall, away from glass and other hazards if possible.
- **Cover** your head and neck with your hands and arms.
- **Hold On** to something sturdy during the shaking

Californians must get better prepared before the next big earthquake, and practice how to protect ourselves when it happens.

The purpose of the ShakeOut is to help people and organizations do both.

The information in the steps below will help you learn how to better prepare to survive and recover, wherever you live, work, or travel.

SEVEN STEPS TO EARTHQUAKE SAFETY

When it comes to disaster, there are simple things you can do to make yourself safer. The information on this page is designed as a step-by-step guide to give you details on what to do before, during, and after an earthquake. Start with the simple tips within each step so that you can build on your accomplishments. An example of this in Step 1 is moving heavy, unsecured objects from top shelves onto lower ones. This will only take minutes to complete and you are safer from that hazard!

PREPARE

Before the next big earthquake we recommend these four steps that will make you, your family, or your workplace better prepared to survive and recover quickly:

Step 1:

[Secure your space](#) by identifying hazards and securing moveable items.



Step 2:

[Plan to be safe](#) by creating a disaster plan and deciding how you will communicate in an emergency.



Step 3:

[Organize disaster supplies](#) in convenient locations.



Step 4:

[Minimize financial hardship](#) by organizing important documents, strengthening your property, and considering insurance.



SURVIVE AND RECOVER

During the next big earthquake, and immediately after, is when your level of preparedness will make a difference in how you and others survive and can respond to emergencies:

Step 5:

[Drop, Cover, and Hold On](#) when the earth shakes.



Step 6:

[Improve safety](#) after earthquakes by evacuating if necessary, helping the injured, and preventing further injuries or damage. After the immediate threat of the earthquake has passed, your level of preparedness will determine your quality of life in the weeks and months that follow:

Step 7:

[Reconnect and Restore](#)

Restore daily life by reconnecting with others, repairing damage, and rebuilding community.

