



NEWS

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For Immediate Release

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El Camino College to Stage Campuswide Earthquake Drill

On November 13, El Camino College and Compton Center will participate in the Great Southern California ShakeOut, along with millions of other schools, businesses, cities, firefighters, police and individuals who have registered for this event.

Are you really prepared? What we do now, before a big earthquake, will determine what our lives will be like after. At 10 a.m. November 13, **all** El Camino College faculty, students and staff will “Drop, Cover, and Hold On,” followed by orderly evacuation of buildings to their primary assembly areas. This ShakeOut Drill is a great opportunity to practice safety procedures in case of an earthquake.

At 10 a.m., an alert will sound from police vehicles throughout campus. This sound simulates the beginning of a major earthquake. At this point, everyone on campus should do the following:

- DROP to the ground
- Take COVER by getting under a sturdy desk or table
- HOLD ON to it until the shaking stops

If there isn't a table or desk nearby, cover your face and head with your arms and crouch in an inside corner of the building. Do not try to run to another room just to get under a table.

It is important to immediately protect yourself as best as possible wherever you are. Earthquakes occur without any warning and may be so violent that you cannot run or crawl; you therefore will most likely be knocked to the ground where you happen to be. If you are outside, get into the open, away from buildings, power lines and trees.

DO NOT get in a doorway! An early earthquake image of California is a collapsed adobe home with the door frame as the only standing part. From this came our belief that a doorway is the safest place to be during an earthquake. In modern houses and buildings, doorways are no safer, and they do not protect you from flying or falling objects. Get under a table instead!

DO NOT run outside! Trying to run in an earthquake is dangerous, as the ground is moving and you can easily fall or be injured by debris or glass. You are much safer to stay inside and get under a table.

When given notice, all will be instructed to evacuate in an orderly manner to the building's designated assembly area. A building emergency responder will give directions. Everyone should stay in the designated area until given notice by the building captain to return to the building.

The district's NIMS Incident Command System Team, the Emergency Planning Committee, and individual building captains are coordinating this important event.

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