

## N E W S

El Camino College | Public Relations & Marketing Department 16007 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance, CA 90506

Contact: Ann M. Garten, Director, Community Relations Telephone: (310) 660-3406 | E-Mail: agarten@elcamino.edu

For Immediate Release

**September 23, 2009** 

## El Camino College to Stage Campuswide Earthquake Drill

On October 15, El Camino College and El Camino College 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.

At 10:15 a.m. October 15, <u>all</u> El Camino College faculty, students and staff will "Drop, Cover, and Hold On," followed by an 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.

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

When the alert sounds on the El Camino College campus, everyone will:

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

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.

Experts advise the importance of immediately protecting yourself as best as possible in the event of an earthquake. Earthquakes occur without warning and may be so violent that running or crawling is impossible. Those in outside areas are advised to get into the open – away from buildings, power lines and trees.

For more information, contact Valerie Wagner at El Camino College, 310-660-3156; and at Compton Center: Lt. Ramund Box, 310-900-1600, ext. 2999. General information about this statewide event is available at www.shakeout.org.