

University of Minnesota

Twin Cities Campus

Emergency Management



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Emergency Operations Plan

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THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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INTRODUCTION

The University of Minnesota, one of the largest educational institutions in the United States with a population on many occasions in excess of 60,000, and with a capital investment of more than \$3 billion in public property, classroom buildings, laboratories, supplies and equipment, is one of the largest communities in the State of Minnesota. Consequently, we must maintain a plan that will provide an effective response to emergencies and disasters. History has proven the need for advanced planning, organizing and training to minimize the effects of all emergency and disaster situations, natural or human caused.

I. Plan Fundamentals

Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to provide for the carrying out of emergency functions to save lives; establish responsibilities necessary to performing these functions; prevent, minimize and repair damage; and ensure continuity of operations so that essential services may continue to be provided to the University of Minnesota.

This plan assigns roles and responsibilities to departments and individuals that are directly responsible for emergency response and critical support services, and provides a management structure for coordinating and deploying essential resources.

This plan also serves as a template for our coordinate campuses; however, the details of each campus plan will vary depending on local procedures and resources.

Scope

Tornadoes, floods, blizzards and other natural disasters can affect the University of Minnesota. In addition, major disasters such as transportation accidents, explosions, accidental releases of hazardous materials and national security emergencies pose a potential threat to public health and safety on the university Campuses. Terrorist events involving Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) are also a threat. A comprehensive emergency plan is needed to insure the protection of the Students, Employees and Public from the effects of these hazards. This Plan guides the preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation actions and may be activated during the following incidents (Maps of affected areas and areas of concern are located in the EOC):

- Tornadoes
 - Blizzards
 - Fires
 - Hazardous material releases
 - Civil unrest
 - Terrorism and other national security emergencies
 - Floods and other natural disasters
 - Extended power outages
 - Explosions
 - Plane Crashes
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This plan may be activated in response to a regional or national crisis that impacts the University system. Any major emergency that affects our students, faculty, and/or staff community is considered a University emergency.

Basic University of Minnesota Emergency Operations Plan

Introduction and Purpose

This plan is a part of the comprehensive emergency preparedness of the University of Minnesota (UM) that is striving to build a disaster resistant institution. To this end UM identifies mitigation opportunities, prepares and disseminates basic and specific planning procedures, develops and exercises with the appropriate response teams and maintains recovery strategies.

The University of Minnesota adheres to the “all hazards” concept for emergency planning where all emergencies or disasters are different with unique issues, but the consequences are typically the same. This plan sets forth the operational fundamentals that will be used to manage response activities in the event of a disaster or emergency at any of the UM campuses. All members of the University community are expected to take personal responsibility for following the policies and procedures of UM and in the event of an emergency act in accordance with instructions given them by the University’s Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness program. Colleges, departments and divisions are responsible for developing specific emergency operation plans for the unique situation they may have, as well as planning for emergencies that are expected.

Too often universities wait for disasters to strike before they realize careful planning could have eliminated or lessened the affects of the disaster. UM must be able to respond to protect its students, and faculty/staff, its buildings and infrastructure and its intellectual property. The plan must address what is expected, but be flexible to adapt to what is unknown. Concurrent with planning is mitigation or identifying areas or places where hazards can be eliminated or at a minimum the consequences can be reduced. Hazard analysis or risk assessments identify the hazards most likely to occur and the consequences associated with the hazard. Some hazards are likely, such as fires and weather events. Other hazards are less likely, but can have a high consequence, such as a terrorist act during a football game.

Although the University is decentralized, all campus colleges and administrative departments are stakeholders in the business continuity, student well-being and faculty interests and research. A well-conceived emergency plan will enhance the University’s ability to recover, reduce liability and improve UM’s image with the public, taxpayers and parents.

Reason for the Plan

Tornadoes, floods, blizzards and other natural disasters can affect the campuses of the University of Minnesota. In addition, major disasters such as transportation accidents, explosions, accidental releases of hazardous materials and national security emergencies pose a potential threat to public health and safety of the

Students, employees and residents. Terrorist events involving Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) are also a threat. An emergency plan is needed to insure the protection of the public from the effects of these hazards.

Purpose of the Plan

The University has many capabilities and resources that could be used in the response to any major disaster. These include the facilities, equipment, personnel and skills of both government and non-government professions and groups. The purpose of this plan is to promote the effective, coordinated use of these resources to:

- Maximize the protection of life and property;
- Ensure the continuity of government; and,
- Provide support to all areas of the University which require assistance.

The actions outlined in this emergency operations plan constitute the existing policy of the University of Minnesota in response to a disastrous emergency. The President (or his/her designee or successor), as chief policymaker for the University has the authority to alter this operations plan during the course of an emergency to the extent that it is deemed necessary.

Emergency Operations Plan Management

The Director of Emergency Management and the staff of the Emergency Management Division (DEM) will assist in coordination of emergency operations and be the contact point for Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The Director of Emergency Management will be staff advisor to the University Officer of the Day.

The Emergency Operations Plan will be maintained and updated by the Department of Emergency Management under the direction of the Emergency Management Director. The University of Minnesota will comply with Minnesota Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and Public Law 99-499 (SARA) training and exercise requirements, as published. Information about both scheduled and previously conducted training and exercises can be obtained by contacting the University of Minnesota Emergency Management Director.

At least once annually the University Office of Emergency Management will conduct a tabletop or full scale exercise to test the planning and operational components of the University Emergency Operations Plan. In addition, a copy of the Directors

Handbook for the State of Minnesota is on file. This document includes the 4 year exercise schedule for the University of Minnesota. Exercises will be coordinated with other emergency response agencies to fulfill requirements of the participating agencies.

Legal Basis and Reference

Public Law (PL)

- Federal Civil Defense Act, as amended (50 USC 2251 et seq.), 1950
- Disaster Relief Act, PL 93-288, as amended (42 USC 5121 et seq.), 1974
- Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act (also known as the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act), PL 99-499, 1986
- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, PL 100-707, as amended (42 USC 5131 et seq.), 1988
- Disaster Mitigation Act, PL 106-390, 2000

United States Code (USC), Title 42, Public Health and Welfare

- Chapter 68, Disaster Relief
- Chapter 116, Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know (EPCRA)

Minnesota Statutes

- Chapter 12, Emergency Management
 - Chapter 88.04, Firebreaks, Prevention of Fires
 - Chapter 103E.705, Subd. 7, Drainage Repair and Construction After a Disaster
 - Chapter 103F.155, Flood Protection Plans
 - Chapter 115E.06, Good Samaritan
 - Chapter 138.17, Subd. 8, Emergency Records Preservation
 - Chapter 273.123, Reassessment of Homestead Property Damaged by a Disaster
 - Chapter 299A.48-52, Minnesota Hazardous Materials Incident Response Act
 - Chapter 299F.091-099, Community Emergency Response Hazardous Substance Protection Act
 - Chapter 299J, Office of Pipeline Safety
 - Chapter 299K, Hazardous Chemical Emergency Planning and Response.
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Authentication

The University of Minnesota Emergency Operations Plan has been reviewed and approved by the following;

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Director, Department of Emergency Management

Date

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Assistant Vice President for Public Safety

Date

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Vice President for University Services

Date

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Senior Vice President for Academic Health

Date

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President, University of Minnesota

Date
