

To: Campus Community  
From: Emergency Preparedness & Planning Committee  
Subject: What to do During an Earthquake

Earthquakes can strike at any time without warning. The shaking from a large earthquake can be so violent that you may not be able to walk, run or crawl, knocking you down where you happen to be. Falling debris would also be of concern. As such, the Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") and the Southern California Earthquake Center recommend the Drop, Cover and Hold On approach during an earthquake. In most situations, you will reduce your chance of injury if you:

- **DROP** down to your hands and knees before the earthquake knocks you down. This will protect you from falling, but will also allow you to move if necessary.
- **COVER** yourself under a sturdy table or desk. If there is no shelter nearby, only then should you get down near an interior wall, or next to low-lying furniture that won't fall on you, and cover your head and neck with your arms and hands.
- **HOLD ON** to your shelter until the shaking stops. Your shelter may move during the shaking so be prepared to move with it.

The primary goals of the Drop, Cover and Hold On approach is to protect you from falling and flying debris, and to increase the chance that you will end up in a survivable void space, if the building actually collapses.

The following online video and website show the appropriate protocol to follow, should we experience an earthquake:

<http://www.earthquakecountry.info/video/surviving.html>

<http://www.dropcoverholdon.org>

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