

HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER



Corpus Christi Campus

Emergency Operations Plan

Coastal Bend Health Education Center

August 2022

Signatures of Approval

This Emergency Operations Plan and its contents is a guide to how the Texas A&M University Health Science Center – Corpus Christi Campus prepares for and responds to emergency situations. It is intended to capture specific authorities and best practices for managing incidents of any size and scope that may impact the building. Additionally, this plan is intended to maintain communication with personnel who are working at remote locations (e.g., Kingsville, Victoria, etc.).

This plan shall apply to all persons participating in mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts of the Corpus Christi campus. Furthermore, tasked departments shall maintain their own procedures and actively participate in the training, exercising and maintenance needed to support this plan.

This plan and its supporting contents are hereby approved, supersedes all previous editions, and is effective immediately upon the signing of all signature authorities noted below.

Recommended
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Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to outline the Corpus Christi campus approach for organizing, coordinating, and directing available resources toward effective emergency operations. The plan includes an organizational structure establishing the authority and assigns responsibility for various emergency tasks. The plan is intended to provide a flexible and scalable framework.

- To help prepare Corpus Christi campus employees, students, and visitors to successfully respond to an emergency
- Define clear roles, responsibilities, and authorities in managing emergency situations
- Clear, rapid, factual, and coordinated communication for emergencies
- Effective coordination among emergency organizations of the university; health system; local, state, and federal authorities

Scope

Texas A&M Health has a responsibility to ensure the safety and security of its students, faculty, staff, and visitors. The scope of this plan is limited to the Corpus Christi campus and to those areas in which personnel are working out in the field, i.e. Community Health Workers.

Situation Overview

General

The Corpus Christi campus is located at 209 N. Water Street, Corpus Christi, TX 78401-2528 in the Education Service Center II Building in the downtown area of Corpus Christi with view of Ocean Drive commonly known for the center of business conferences and hotel area.

Additionally, the Corpus Christi campus has employees at remote locations, to include: Falfurias, Zapata, Kingsville, Victoria, and Lake Jackson. These employees offer services and programming for within their respective locations. Furthermore, their office spaces are leased spaces within other facilities. As such, these employees must be knowledgeable of their respective emergency plans as well.

Hazard Analysis

The Corpus Christi campus is exposed to hazards – natural and human-caused – that have the potential for disrupting the normal working operations, causing casualties, and damaging or destroying the facilities. A summary of major hazards is provided in the table below.

Hazard Type	Likelihood of Occurrence (Low Medium High)	Estimated Impact on Public Health and Safety (Low Medium High)	Estimated Impact on Property (Low Medium High)
Civil Disorder	Low	Low	Low
Energy/Fuel Shortage	High	High	Medium
HazMat Release	Low	Low	Low
Structural Fire	Low	Low	Low
Terrorism	Low	Low	Low
Water System Failure	High	High	High
Flash Flooding	High	High	High
Flooding (river or tidal)	High	High	High
Hurricane	High	High	High
Tornado	High	High	High
Winter Storm	Low	Low	Low

* High likelihood means the hazard happens frequently and low likelihood means the hazard rarely happens or has not happened.

** High impact means significant injuries/illness or loss of life as well as a large loss of assets; whereas low impact means no impact, no injuries, minor loss of assets.

Capabilities Assessment

The Corpus Christi campus does not maintain its own emergency services, therefore emergency services are provided by the City of Corpus Christi. Corpus Christi administration coordinates with Education Service Center Region II - who controls building access – and local responding agencies, etc.

The primary and secondary agencies for emergency services are listed below.

Agency Type	Primary	Secondary
Emergency Medical Services	Corpus Christi Fire Department	Christus Spohn System
Fire Services	Corpus Christi Fire Department	
Law Enforcement	Corpus Christi Police Department	Nueces County Sheriff's Office
Public Health	Nueces County Health Department	Christus Spohn System

Planning Assumptions

In addition to the planning assumptions provided within the Texas A&M Health Emergency Operations Plan, the following are planning assumptions specific to the Corpus Christi campus.

- The Corpus Christi campus will continue to be exposed to and subject to the impact of those hazards described above as well as lesser hazards and others that may develop in the future.
- Emergencies may occur at any time and at any place. In many cases, dissemination of warning to the public and implementation of increased readiness measures may be possible. However, some emergency situations occur with little or no warning.
- The Corpus Christi Campus is reliant on emergency services from the local jurisdiction. Therefore, it is essential for us to be prepared to carry out the basic initial emergency response since it may take time for emergency services to arrive.
- Proper planning and preparedness activities with local emergency services will ensure an effective and coordinated response.
- Proper mitigation actions, such as floodplain management, and fire inspections, can prevent or reduce disaster-related losses. Detailed emergency planning, training of emergency responders and other personnel, and conducting periodic emergency drills and exercises can improve our readiness to deal with emergency situations.
- The Corpus Christi campus officials and representatives must recognize their responsibilities for the safety and well-being of faculty, staff, students, and visitors; and assume their responsibilities in the implementation of this emergency plan.
- Proper implementation of these guidelines will reduce or prevent disaster-related losses.

Concept of Operations

General

The Corpus Christi officials and representatives have the responsibility to protect public health and safety and preserve property from the effects of an emergency. As such, the response priorities are:

- Protection of life and safety of students, faculty, staff, and visitors;
- Secure critical infrastructure and facilities which are, in priority order:
 - Facilities critical to health and safety;
 - Facilities that sustain emergency response;
 - Classroom and research facilities; and
 - Administration facilities
- Resume teaching and research programs.

In order to meet these priorities, the officials and representatives must implement appropriate population protection activities (e.g. evacuations or sheltering in place), issue timely emergency notifications and warnings, coordinate emergency public information, ensure interoperable emergency communications, and coordinate with local emergency services personnel.

Emergency Authorities

The Director, as the campus administrator, is the primary local authority for the Corpus Christi campus. For rapid onset emergencies (e.g., building fire, chemical spill, active shooter, etc.), the Director has the authority to:

- Issue population protective actions;
- Alter personnel schedules in support of an emergency response; and
- Identify trained personnel as deemed essential for maintaining critical campus operations.

For emergencies with longer lead times (e.g., winter weather, hurricanes, etc.), the Director, in consultation with Texas A&M Health Administration as stated in the “Lines of Succession” below, may alter campus operations in support of an emergency response or for the safety and well-being of the campus community. Specific authorities related to altered campus operations due to inclement weather can be found in Attachment 4 of this plan.

Any implementation of emergency authorities will be communicated to the Texas A&M Health Administration Coordination Group for coordination with Texas A&M University Executive Management and the Texas A&M Health administration.

Population Protective Actions

Depending on the nature of the emergency, the Corpus Christi campus trained personnel must implement population protective actions prior to the arrival of local emergency personnel. Population protective actions include:

- Partial or full evacuation in accordance with the Fire Safety Plan (maintained under separate title);
- Sheltering-in-place for hazardous materials releases; or
- Seeking safe shelter for acts of violence, tornado warnings, etc.

See Attachment 3 for action plans regarding sheltering-in-place and safe shelter locations.

Emergency Notification and Warning

Timely warnings of emergency conditions are essential to preserve the safety and security of the campus and are critical to an effective response and recovery.

When the Director, or designee, has made the decision to act on an emergency that affects the Corpus Christi campus, and after local emergency responders have been

notified, a member of the Notification and Warning Team will immediately initiate an HSC Alert message if it meets the criteria for activation of the system. Decision criteria for issuing warnings can be found in Attachment 2 of the EOP.

Alternative methods for notification to the campus community may be implemented depending on the nature of the incident. For a list of all the warning mechanisms, see Attachment 2 of the EOP.

Periodic updates should be provided to the campus community utilizing the most appropriate notification method until the emergency has been resolved.

Emergency Public Information

The Corpus Christi campus does not have a person that handles media relations as part of their normal responsibilities. Therefore, all media inquiries will be routed through the Texas A&M Health Assistant Vice President for Marketing and Communications.

Should the Assistant Vice President for Marketing and Communications become overwhelmed with media requests, the TAMU Division of Marketing & Communications – in College Station – can assist by implementing their Emergency Communications Plan.

Emergency Communications

Reliable and interoperable communications systems are essential to obtain the most complete information during emergencies and share information amongst the Emergency Management Team as well as the campus community and emergency response partners.

Communications Equipment

- Telephones, cellular or landline, are the primary means of communication for contacting key emergency responders and Local Emergency Management Team members.
- Email
- SMS (text messaging)

Interface with Local Responders

The Corpus Christi campus officials and representatives rely on the City of Corpus Christi for emergency services as described in “Capabilities Assessment” above. In the event that an emergency at the Corpus Christi campus requires law enforcement, fire, or EMS assistance, the first available person should call 911 from a campus phone to notify emergency responders immediately. The Director should be notified immediately after calling 911 so that a Corpus Christi campus representative can serve as the initial point of contact for arriving emergency responders.

Prior to the arrival of emergency responders, members of the Local Emergency Management Team should take actions as appropriate per their training in response to the incident.

Upon arrival to the campus, emergency responders may choose to establish an Incident Command Post (ICP) per their policies/procedures. The Emergency Management Liaison, as a member of the Local Emergency Management Team, will serve as a liaison between the Corpus Christi campus and local emergency responders.

Interface with TAMU College Station Campus

The Corpus Christi campus' priority during the emergency is to protect life safety and property. After emergency actions have been initiated per the EOP, notifications to the Texas A&M Health Administration Coordination Group should be made. While the Texas A&M Health Administration Coordination Group receives emergency notifications from HSC Alert, additional information concerning the nature of the incident, number/type of injuries, status of the facility, etc. should be provided and should include status updates, as appropriate, until the situation is resolved. The Texas A&M Health Administration Coordination Group will forward updates to others within Texas A&M Health Administration and Texas A&M Emergency Management for routing to the Texas A&M University Executive Management.

Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities

Organization

Senior Administrators

- Director
- Assistant Director

Local Emergency Management Team

The Corpus Christi campus officials and representatives have identified key individuals to be members of the Emergency Management Team, to act in their specific roles and bear the responsibilities listed below. Members of the Local Emergency Management Team are:

- Emergency Management Liaison
- Program Managers

The Local Emergency Management Team:

- Has the authority to make overall decisions for the building and/or centers.
- Have a thorough knowledge of the building's operational needs.
- Are able and willing to serve as a liaison to emergency responders and/or HSC administrators regarding, but not limited to, emergency needs, status reports, and communications.
- May distribute information to building occupants or gather information as needed for dissemination to students, employees, and visitors on the Corpus Christi campus.
- May maintain financial or administrative records involved in the emergency and post-action recovery.

- Should understand other team members' roles and responsibilities to provide the team continuity and support if one or more members are unavailable during an emergency.

In addition, the Local Emergency Management Team is also responsible for:

- The development and maintenance of this plan for presentation to and approval by the senior administrators – as listed in this plan – for final approval and signature;
- The preview and maintenance of information, additions, and changes to the plan at all times;
- Plan oversight; coordination with applicable stakeholders; and scheduling, training, and implementing annual drills.

Notification and Warning Team

The Notification and Warning Team is a component of the Local Emergency Management Team. The team is comprised of individuals from CBHEC Administration. This team has been trained on the use of HSC Alert and are authorized to issue an alert in accordance with HSC Alert Standard Operating Procedures. Members of the Notification and Warning Team are:

- Director
- Emergency Management Liaison

Fire Wardens

The Fire Wardens are responsible for assisting with notification and safe evacuation of occupants from their offices, classrooms, or other work areas among other responsibilities as defined in the Fire Safety Plan (maintained under a separate title).

Essential Personnel

Some university employees, because of the nature of their jobs, may be identified as “essential personnel”. Essential personnel will be identified as such by their supervisors based on their roles and responsibilities during an emergency.

Assignment of Responsibilities

Emergency Management Liaison

The Emergency Management Liaison will serve as the lead of the Local Emergency Management Team. In this capacity, the Emergency Management Liaison is the lead administrator for the Corpus Christi campus and maintains authority of its building operations during emergency situations for which Texas A&M Health leases space.

Local Emergency Management Team

- Create and establish annual training and exercise schedules to test functionality of the plan

- Establish building and departmental internal emergency notification lists
- Solicit a list of self-identified persons (students, employees, and/or visitors) with functional needs using the facility at any given time (ADA requirement)
- Maintain a “Go Kit” – each member should maintain a “Go Kit”. Each “Go Kit” will be unique and should include items such as a copy of the Emergency Operations Plan, key contact lists, and any files specific to the member’s position on the EMT. “Go kits” can be kept on memory sticks (flash drives) and will be encrypted or password protected if possible.
- Report to the Corpus Christi campus emergency operations center.
- Initiate building and center internal emergency notification lists when the emergency is verified by the Emergency Management Liaison.
- Deploy Fire Wardens for evacuation or sheltering-in-place as required.
- Notify Texas A&M University Emergency Management of the nature of emergency.

Safety Office

- Immediately contact the CBHEC Director and begin assessment of the emergency condition.
- May serve as a liaison with local fire department
- Provide information to emergency responders about chemical inventories, research operations, etc. that may impact the response

Security

- Immediately contact the CBHEC Director and begin assessment of the emergency condition.
- Serves as a liaison with local law enforcement
- Provides access control of the building

Facilities

- Initiates procedures to secure facility for hazardous weather conditions
- Furnishes emergency power and lighting systems to the extent possible
- Provides technical knowledge about the facility
- Directs emergency repairs and protects equipment

Individuals

- Familiarize themselves with emergency procedures and evacuation routes in the building

Lines of Succession

Program Managers

- Diabetes Education Program Managers

- Medication Assistance Program Manager
- Asthma Program Manager

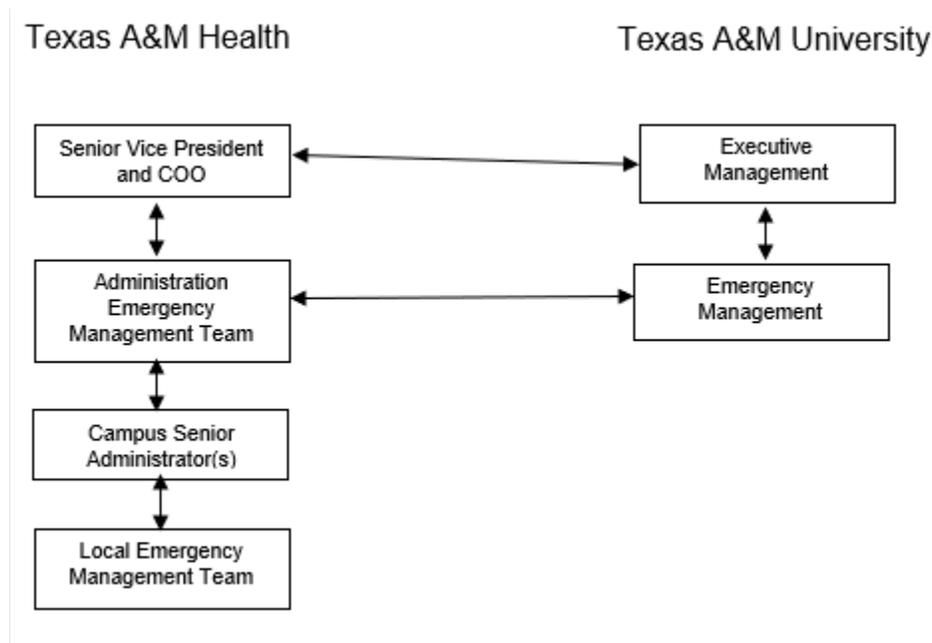
Facilities Manager

- Education Service Center Region II Administrator
- Education Service Center Region II Building Manager

Direction, Control, and Coordination

General

The emergency management structure and communication flow will generally follow normal day-to-day operations. However, some emergency situations may require a more structured organization to facilitate communication and coordination more easily. The diagram below depicts the emergency management structure and flow of communication during an emergency.



Emergency Operations Center

The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is located in Education Service Center Region II Bldg., 209 N. Water Street, Corpus Christi, TX 78401-2528 of the Corpus Christi campus. The EOC serves as the centralized location in which the EMT will operate and make executive level decisions during an emergency. Response activities and work assignments will be planned, coordinated, and delegated from the EOC. During an emergency, designated personnel should report directly to the EOC.

Administration, Finance, and Logistics

After Action Reviews

Following an activation of the Emergency Operations Plan, members of the Local Emergency Management Team and campus administrators shall conduct an after-action review. The review of emergency responses can yield valuable feedback to the emergency planning process and enable the Corpus Christi campus officials and representatives to improve future emergency responses. The scope of after-action reviews may range from small to large depending upon the complexity of the response.

An After-Action Report should be generated following the review that captures the nature of the incident, response descriptions, and outcomes – what worked well and areas for improvement – and recommendations for future planning. A copy of the report will be provided to Texas A&M University Emergency Management. Texas A&M University Emergency Management will submit all after action reports to the Texas A&M University System Risk Management office in accordance with Texas A&M University System Policy for Emergency Management (34.07 and 34.07.01). A copy of the report will be available through the Emergency Management Liaison.

Agreements and Contracts

- ESC Contract, Amistad Contract, Kleberg Contract, CHI St. Luke’s Health, Health Department of Victoria

Plan Development and Maintenance

Maintenance

The Emergency Management Team is responsible for maintaining and updating this plan. The plan shall be reviewed annually and updated based upon deficiencies identified during actual emergency situations and exercises and when changes in hazards, resources, capabilities, or organizational structure occur. A revised or updated plan will be provided to all departments and individuals tasked in this plan in addition to Texas A&M University Emergency Management.

Testing and Exercising

With the assistance and cooperation of Texas A&M Emergency Management, Local Emergency Management Team members will outline and arrange training reflective of their responsibilities for students, faculty, and staff to participate in annually.

Annual exercises will be held so Local Emergency Management Team members can practice their skills and evaluate the adequacy of the EOP. An After-Action Report (AAR) for each exercise shall be developed and submitted to Texas A&M University Emergency Management. All exercises will be conducted in accordance with Texas A&M System Policy for Emergency Management.

Annual Plan Submission and Reporting

Texas A&M Emergency Management is responsible for submissions and reporting of required plans and executive summaries to the TAMUS Office of Risk Management in accordance with System Regulation 34.07.01 for Emergency Plans.

Authorities and References

Authorities

There are no additional authorities beyond those listed in the Texas A&M University Emergency Operations Plan.

Plan Contact Information

Name and Position	Phone Number	Alternate Phone Number
Starr Flores, Director	361-561-8595 work	361-425-5520 mobile
E-Mail: Starr-Flores@tamhsc.edu		
Department: CBHEC department		

Record of Change

Change Number	Date of Change	Description of Change	Change Made By:
1	10/18/2018	Updated HSC Administration points of contact	Lutz
2	3/7/2019	Annual Review, updates to titles, update contact information.	Lutz
3	9/25/2020	Update signature page, contacts, and Attachment 4 revision.	Lutz/Walton
4	5/27/2021	Review, no changes	Lutz
5	8/8/2022	Updates to titles. Revision to the "Organization" section	Lutz

Attachment 1: Additional Resources

Local Entities

Name Title	Entity	Phone Number	Email Address
Anne Cunningham Associate Director	ESC Region II Building	361.561.8660	Anna.Cunningham@esc2.us
Billy Delgado Emergency Management Coordinator	Corpus Christi Emergency Management	361.826.1100	
Robert Rocha Fire Chief	Corpus Christi Fire Department	361.826.3932	RRocha@cctexas.com
Mike Markle Chief of Police	Corpus Christi Police Department	361.886.2603	
Jim Kaelin Sheriff	Nueces County Sheriff's Department	361.887.2222	Nueces.countysheriff@nuecesco.com

Attachment 2: Notification and Warning

Warning messages must be accurate, clear, and consistent. All messages should include information describing the situation, actions to take, and where to get additional information.

Many warning mechanisms can be activated individually such as fire alarms and campus email. Alternatively, some of the mechanisms can be activated through HSC Alert.

Texas A&M Health maintains a robust warning system. Therefore, below is a non-comprehensive listing of available warning mechanisms.

- Text Messages*
- Email*
- HSC Website*
- Mobile Application*
- Social Media*
- ezText service
- Local Media
- Building Fire Alarms

The warning mechanisms denoted above by (*) can be activated by HSC Alert. HSC Alert is the Texas A&M Health's opt-out emergency notification system that gives Texas A&M Health the ability to send emergency information advising of imminent threat to Texas A&M Health components through text messaging and mass email.

Because some Texas A&M Health components reside on other institutions campuses, Texas A&M Health also relies on hosting campuses to provide immediate warnings as well. Therefore, all Texas A&M Health students, faculty, and staff on hosting campuses should be aware of existing warning mechanisms and should take steps to receive such warning messages.

In addition to emergency messaging, timely warnings, as defined by The Clery Act, will be issued if a situation arises (either on or off campus) which in the best judgment of the Clery Compliance Officer or designee constitutes an ongoing or continuing threat to the Texas A&M Health community.

Many factors are considered when deciding to and how to disseminate warnings. Below are some broad considerations for warning dissemination.

1. Type of hazard
 - What is the hazard? (Building fire, tornado, hazardous materials release)
 - What is the impact to the HSC or component? (Minor, major, catastrophic)
 - What is the potential for the situation to worsen?
 - Is the situation under control?
2. Life safety and property protection
 - What is the potential for death?

- What is the potential for severe injury?
 - What is the potential for minor injury?
 - What is the potential for property damage?
 - What is the potential for disruption to normal course of business?
3. Urgency
- How soon does the message need to go out? (Seconds, hours, days)
 - Is there time for approval?
4. Audience
- Who needs to be warned? (Students, faculty, staff, administrators, tenants, guests)
 - How many people need to be warned? (Few, dozens, hundreds, thousands)
5. System(s) capabilities
- What are the limitations of each system? (Limited audience, lengthy delivery time)
 - How quickly can the messages be sent? (Immediately, minutes, hours)

Attachment 3: Safe Shelter Locations

The below table indicates identified safe locations for severe weather (e.g., tornadoes).

Location/ Room Number	Floor	Description
Education Service Center Region II Bldg.	1 st Floor	Select interior spaces-rooms with no walls on the exterior.

Shelter-In-Place

When emergency conditions do not warrant or allow evacuation, the safest method to protect individuals may be to take shelter inside the building and await further instructions.

- Move indoors or remain there – avoid windows and areas with glass.
- If available, take a radio or television to the room to track emergency status.
- Keep telephone lines free for emergency responders. Do not call 911 for information.

If hazardous materials are involved:

- Turn off all ventilation systems and close all inlets from the outside.
- Select a room(s) which is easy to seal and, if possible, has a water supply and access to restrooms.
- If you smell gas or vapor, hold a wet cloth loosely over your nose and mouth, and breathe through it in as normal a fashion as possible.

Active Shooter

During an active shooter situation, there are three things that an individual can do to protect themselves: Run. Hide. Fight.

Run. When an active shooter is in your vicinity:

- If there is an escape path, attempt to evacuate.
- Evacuate whether others agree to or not.
- Leave your belongings behind.
- Help others escape, if possible.
- Prevent others from entering the area.
- Call 911 when you are safe.

Hide. If an evacuation is not possible, find a place to hide and:

- Lock and/or blockade the door.
- Silence your cell phone.
- Hide behind large objects.
- Remain very quiet.

Your hiding place should:

- Be out of the shooter's view.
- Provide protection if shots are fired in your direction.
- Not trap or restrict your options for movement.

Fight. As a last resort, and only if your life is in danger:

- Attempt to incapacitate the shooter.
- Act with physical aggression.
- Improvise weapons.
- Commit to your actions.

Arriving law enforcement's first priority is to engage and stop the shooter as soon as possible. Officers will form teams and immediately proceed to engage the shooter, moving towards the sound of gunfire.

When law enforcement arrives:

- Remain calm and follow instructions.
- Keep your hands visible at all times.
- Avoid pointing or yelling.
- Know that help for the injured is on its way.

Attachment 4: Altered Operations for Inclement Weather

Purpose

This procedure is to outline the authorities, operations, and responsibilities for altering campus operations due to the threat of or actual inclement weather. Alteration of campus operations is defined as the early dismissal, delayed opening, or campus closure.

Authorities

Each campus retains local authority for the decisions relating to altering campus operations due to inclement weather.

Each campus retains local authority to issue an HSC Alert to the campus population regarding the altered operation.

Procedure

Each campus will:

- Monitor local weather to determine if altered campus operations are warranted.
- Coordinate their decisions to alter campus operations with other TAMU components in the same jurisdiction.
- Take into consideration the actions of local school districts or other higher education institutions.
 - If local school districts and/or other higher education institutions alter their operations, the respective campus may alter their operations.
 - If local school districts and/or other higher education institutions remain open, the respective campus should remain open.
- Notify the following individuals, via a group email or text message, of the determination of altered operations and the reason for such determination. **Note:** If the decision is made after 10pm or before 6am, the campus does not have to wait on a reply from any individual listed below to issue an HSC Alert.
 - Chief of Staff
 - Provost Office Representative
 - TAMU Director of Crisis Communications
 - TAMU Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator
- Issue the HSC Alert for their respective campus if campus operations will be altered.

Upon notification of altered campus alterations, Texas A&M Emergency Management will:

- Notify Texas A&M Health Marketing & Communications for media releases.
- Notify the Texas A&M Health Webmaster to post alerts on appropriate websites.

- Send out on HSC Alert covering multiple campuses if inclement weather impacts multiple campuses simultaneously, rather than multiple campuses sending out HSC Alerts individually.

Resources

Entity	URL
City of Corpus Christi Emergency Management	http://www.cctexas.com/departments/fire-department/emergency-management-staff-location
Nueces County Emergency Management	http://www.nuecesco.com/public-services/emergency-management-536
Corpus Christi Independent School District	https://www.ccisd.us/
Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi	http://www.tamucc.edu/
Local News – Weather	http://www.kiiitv.com/weather
National Weather Service	http://www.weather.gov/crp/
TXDOT Highway Conditions	http://www.drivetexas.org

Attachment 5: Medical Aid

For emergencies, 9-1-1 should be notified immediately. Then the Emergency management Liaison should be notified if possible. This will allow Program Managers to meet and escort the emergency personnel to the appropriate location.

There are individuals on the Corpus Christi campus that have been trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and minor First Aid. These individuals can provide immediate assistance prior to the arrival of emergency personnel.

First Aid kits are located throughout the building that may be available for use.

There is one automated external defibrillators (AEDs) located in the ESC Region II Bldg. Diabetes Education Program Suite.

Attachment 6: Hazardous Materials Incidents

Each laboratory that works with chemicals and/or radioactive materials will employ its own containment/spill procedures in the event of a small unintentional release of less than 1 liter and not extremely toxic chemical or a small volume of radioactive material.

If a chemical release involves an extremely toxic chemical or in an amount larger than can be contained by laboratory personnel, the Emergency Management Liaison at 361-561-8590 shall be notified. The following information should be given:

- Nature of the emergency and exact location
- Name of person supplying information
- Identity and quantity of chemical released
- Information about injured personnel (if any)

Upon notification of the incident, the Emergency Management Liaison will respond to the emergency location, assess the emergency, and notify the appropriate response personnel.

The following procedures should be followed by all personnel.

1. Remove all personnel from the immediate danger area
2. If the chemical incident involves injury to personnel:
 - a. Dial 9-1-1 to call for an ambulance transport
 - b. Notify Director that an ambulance was called so that the Emergency Management Liaison can escort the paramedics or emergency medical technicians (EMTs) to the location of the injury
 - c. Immediately decontaminate the victim with running water for at least 15 minutes or until medical assistance arrives
 - d. Send the chemical name, bottle label, or Safety Data Sheet (SDS) with the victim
3. Contact the Emergency Management Liaison concerning the incident and provide the following information:
 - a. Name or other description and quantity of chemical spilled
 - b. Location of spill
 - c. Any injuries resulting from the spill
4. Avoid breathing vapors or dust from the spilled material
5. If the spilled chemical is flammable, turn off all ignition and heat sources, if possible.
6. Leave any contaminated, or potentially contaminated, materials (e.g., lab coats, gloves, etc.) in the laboratory or area of spill
7. If the spill occurs in a laboratory, close the door. Post a "Do Not Enter, Chemical / Radioactive Material Spill" sign on the door
8. If the spill occurs in a corridor, elevator, or other public area:
 - a. Close or block off the area
 - b. Notify the ESC Region II Building Manager

Attachment 7: Loss of Building Utilities

The Corpus Christi campus has an emergency power generator. In the event of an electrical failure the emergency generator should supply power to selected areas and outlets. The red-colored electrical outlets are on generator power.

In the event the emergency generator fails to work and the facility has no power, all faculty, staff, and students should secure their area (e.g., placing perishables in refrigerators, shielding radioactive material experiments, closing chemical containers, etc.) then exit the building as soon as possible. All personnel should leave the building and congregate at the designated assembly area including essential personnel until it is determined that the building is safe for limited occupancy by the facilities manager.

Attachment 8: Bomb Threats

Because of the seriousness of the situation and the possibility of physical injury to the parties concerned, initial precaution must be taken in the case of a bomb threat or presence of explosive devices. If an employee or a student suspects an object to be a bomb or explosive, she/he will IN NO WAY HANDLE OR TOUCH THE OBJECT.

Notify Corpus Christi Police Department immediately. The Director will notify the TAMU Emergency Management Dept., or designee, and all areas affected.

The building or area where the object is found will be evacuated immediately in accordance with the evacuation procedures contained in the Fire Safety Plan.

Radio communication WIL NOT be used in the vicinity of suspected bombs or explosive devices. It is essential that the object NOT BE TOUCHED OR MOVED by employees or students.

Emergency Management Liaison will request emergency response assistance from the Corpus Christi Police Department Bomb Squad by dialing 9-1-1.

Attachment 9: Hurricane Plan

General

It is incumbent for the coastal campuses to prepare for and secure the respective facilities from potential high winds and/or flooding. In general coastal campuses should:

- Complete a pre-landfall survey around each building and/or campus and rooftop where accessible. This will identify possible loose items that should be secured, as well as allow for the determination of pre-impact condition of the facility.
- Identify and document equipment that is on emergency power, where applicable
- Secure facilities, loose items, and equipment
- Park fueled vehicles in a safe, secure location – in a parking garage or in parking lots away from trees. The location of the vehicle, the keys and identified responsible person should be noted. A vehicle accountability log is located in Attachment 5.

It takes a collective effort of all individuals on these campuses in this endeavor; therefore, all respective colleges, centers, departments, and units should develop a unit hurricane preparedness plan prior to hurricane season. The following sections provide guidelines and checklists for preparing and securing research laboratories and office spaces for potential hurricane impacts.

Critical Assets Resource Support

When identifying equipment that is on generator power, the campus should verify that piece of equipment must remain on generator power. If not, that piece of equipment should be removed from generator power. This will allow for a lighter generator load and/or allow for other pieces of equipment to be placed on generator power that is otherwise not on generator power.

For research laboratories, campuses should identify the critical assets (e.g., research animals) for which support and/or tending must be provided and specific resources that may be needed. For example, additional water sources or a back-up water supply may be needed for tending to research animals. Additionally, the campus needs to account for the storage/stock-pile requirements for these critical asset resources.

Research Laboratory Preparation Guidelines

Hurricane hazards can come in many forms, including heavy rainfall, high winds, flooding, and tornadoes. Advance preparation of specialized areas, such as laboratories, can help avoid certain dilemmas posed by the threat of a severe storm.

Hurricane Preparedness: Hurricane Season Begins

1. Consider a careful selection of hazardous materials storage areas.
2. Plan ahead for the permanent placement of sensitive equipment away from windows and other high risk areas.

3. Plan not to be at the building during or immediately after a hurricane.

Hurricane Watch: 48 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical storm force winds

1. Place large garbage bags near each piece of electronic equipment.
Remember to have bags available before they are needed.
2. Shelve and secure all glassware, microscopes, etc.
3. Containerize and seal all hazardous wastes.
4. Discuss re-entry precautions should the area be damaged by the storm:
*Are any special re-entry precautions potentially necessary?
If so, what actions should/should not be taken, and by whom?*
5. Decide if heat-labile materials will require additional or backup cooling/freezing capability?
Consider obtaining dry ice for use in such freezers or refrigerators, and remember to order extra liquid nitrogen if you are getting low.

Remember:

Do not add additional freezers to emergency circuits, as this may overload circuits causing all to go down. Contact the Facilities Office in advance for advice on available circuits in your area.

Hurricane Warning: 36 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical-storm-force winds

1. Wrap up all experiments in progress, and halt the use of chemical, radiological, or biohazardous agents.
2. Radioactive, chemical, and biological hazards should be stored in secured compartments appropriate to their hazard (e.g., solvents in flammable solvent cabinets, corrosives in acid/base cabinets, radioactive materials in their shipping containers with adequate shielding, biologicals in incubators, etc.).
3. No hazardous materials should be left on counter-tops, open shelves, or on floors. Small numbers of small, breakable containers or objects (e.g., test tubes, petri plates, microscope slides, etc.) should be emptied and stored.
4. Large numbers of small, breakable containers or objects can be placed in secondary containers such as plastic restaurant bus trays, or 5-gallon utility

buckets. The secondary containers or trays can then be securely stored in cabinets located in areas of low flood potential.

5. Protect equipment in areas with windows from hazards associated with broken glass, driven rain, and wind; leave all floors and counter space clear of equipment, papers, chemicals, etc.
6. Turn off power to electronic equipment. Cover all electronic equipment with garbage bags or suitable plastic, regardless of whether windows are present in the immediate area.
7. Lock or tape shut all refrigerators, freezers, incubators, etc.
8. Unplug all non-critical electronic equipment.

Administrative Office Preparation Guidelines

Hurricane Watch

1. Place large garbage bags near each piece of electronic equipment.
2. Place all loose papers and important documents in cabinets or files.

Hurricane Warning

1. Turn off power and unplug electronic equipment.
2. Cover all electronic equipment with garbage bags or suitable plastic.

Research Laboratory Checklist

Please check if you are **NOT** responsible for a lab area.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action/Task	Location	Staff Responsible (Primary)	Staff Responsible (Alternate)
	Turn down refrigerators and freezers to the lowest practical settings and plug into emergency power where available. Red outlets typically designate emergency power.			
	Place recording maximum/minimum thermometers in refrigerators and freezers containing temperature critical supplies and samples.			
	Plug incubators into emergency power outlets if you must maintain cultures in vitro.			
	Cover and secure or seal vulnerable equipment with plastic.			
	Remove or secure equipment from outdoor and rooftop locations.			
	Ensure arrangements have been made for the care and feeding of laboratory animals. Follow recommended actions of Animal Care Services.			
	In areas subject to flooding, relocate or elevate equipment, chemicals, wastes, and other important items from the floor to prevent damage.			
	Secure radioactive isotopes, biohazardous agents, recombinant materials, and hazardous chemicals to prevent breakage and release.			
	Fill dewars and cryogen reservoirs for sample storage and/or critical equipment.			
	Over-pack reactive chemicals in plastic, waterproof containers.			
	Remove regulators and cap gas cylinders, except for CO ₂ needed to maintain cell cultures. Ensure all cylinders are secure.			
	Autoclave or inactivate infectious or rDNA waste.			

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action/Task	Location	Staff Responsible (Primary)	Staff Responsible (Alternate)
	Due to the possibility of power outages, store volatile, toxic materials in tightly sealed, break-resistant containers rather than fume hoods or open room.			
	Protect valuable files, research samples and notebooks in place or move to a safer location.			
	Protect notebooks and secure samples/data as necessary for colleagues unable to reach the lab.			

Administrative Office Checklist

Please check if you are **NOT** responsible for an office area.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action/Task	Location	Staff Responsible (Primary)	Staff Responsible (Alternate)
	Cover and secure vulnerable equipment with plastic.			
	When possible, move equipment and other valuable items into the interior areas of the building away from windows. Tag moved equipment with department contact information for easy identification and retrieval.			
	In areas subject to flooding, relocate equipment and other valuable items to a higher floor or elevate. Tag moved equipment with department contact information for easy identification and retrieval.			
	Clear refrigerators and freezers of items that could spoil if power is lost, but leave appliance plugged in.			
	Place important records and files in cabinets and cover with plastic.			
	Close and latch (or secure with tape if needed) filling cabinets and cupboards.			
	Back-up electronic data and store in multiple locations.			
	Follow IT provider instructions for computer equipment preparations.			
	Clear desktops, tables, and exposed horizontal surfaces of materials subject to damage.			
	Place telephone in desk drawer if the cord is long enough. Do not unplug telephones.			
	Take personal possessions home. The HSC is not responsible for personal items damaged.			
	Secure windows and close blinds.			
	Change voice mail to indicate closure.			
	Close and lock all doors, including office doors, before leaving.			

Attachment 10: Tornado Response

Definitions

Tornado Watch: Conditions are favorable for the development of tornadoes in and close to the watch area. A tornado watch will generally cover a large area and may last for several hours.

Tornado Warning: A tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. A tornado warning is issued for a small area – portion of a county – and lasts for several minutes.

Alerts and Warnings

The National Weather Service will issue tornado warnings through the Emergency Alert System (EAS) to weather radios, radio and television, and cell phones. If time allows, the tornado warning may be reissued via:

- HSC Alert by a member of the Notification and Warning Team; or

Protective Actions

Upon the National Weather Service issuing a tornado warning, Individuals should immediately move to the most interior rooms on the lowest floors of the building. Most importantly, stay away from exterior walls and windows. Refer to attachment 4 of this plan for the most suitable locations for seeking safe shelter during a tornado warning.

To the extent possible, researchers should stop experiments, store chemicals, turn off any open flames, and ensure hazardous equipment are secure – as to prevent any incidents due to unattended experiments.

Attachment 11: Clinical Emergency Procedures

The Program Managers will assign an administrative staff to communicate with all clients and patients via an EZ-texting system in place for rescheduling or cancelling visits. The website for EZ-Texting system is <https://www.eztexting.com/> and essential personnel have access to this system via internet.