



THE UNIVERSITY *of*  
**MISSISSIPPI**

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Campus Emergency Management Plan  
Synopsis

Prepared by  
Emergency Management Services

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## Introduction

The University of Mississippi (UM) jurisdiction is vulnerable to a number of natural and human-caused hazards. This vulnerability could directly impact students, staff, faculty, visitors as well as University Property. To effectively prepare, respond to, and recover from these natural and human-caused hazards, the University of Mississippi has adopted the Campus Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) to guide its response and recovery efforts.

The priorities and objectives of this plan are to (1) protect lives, (2) stabilize the incident, (3) protect the environment, (4) protect University Property, and (5) restore critical services, education, and research programs. This plan was written to follow the National Incident Management System – Incident Command System (NIMS – ICS) requirements as established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The use of NIMS & ICS enables the campus community to coordinate effectively with other jurisdictions involved in any incident response.

## Purpose

The purpose of the UM Campus Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) is to outline the management structure, communications, responsibilities, procedures and guiding policies to assist the University of Mississippi campus when responding to an emergency event. Department-specific plans and standard operating procedures (SOPs) complement and coordinate overall efforts while providing more depth and specific detail regarding department-level response.

## Scope

The UM CEMP is a campus-level plan covering the property owned and operated by UM and the faculty, staff, students and visitors associated with the UM Oxford campus. The plan includes guidance for responding to a range of emergencies, regardless of size, type or complexity. This plan is not a substitute for training, all members of our campus's emergency response groups and entities should participate in trainings with UM Emergency Management Services. This plan is designed to work in coordination with existing Operating Procedures for UM departments and assisting agencies; this plan does not replace established Operating Procedures.

This plan only covers the Oxford, MS campus; other current and future campuses or property leased by UM will have separate plans developed. This plan supersedes any previous plans and precludes employee actions not in concert with the intent of this plan, or emergency response organizations created by it.

***Nothing in the CEMP, or any element thereof, should be construed as limiting the use of good judgement and common sense in matters not foreseen or addressed by the CEMP.***

## **Authority and References**

The CEMP is established under the following authorities and standards for emergency management as amended:

- Federal Response Plan for Public Law 93-288, as amended
- US Code, Title 42, Chapter 116, Subchapter 1, sec. 110005, SARA Title 3, Sections 301-303, 304 et al
- Presidential Policy Directive/ PPD-5: “Management of Domestic Incidents”
- Presidential Policy Directive 8/PPD-8: “National Preparedness”
- National Incident Management System: Department of Homeland Security.
- Robert T Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, (as amended)
- The CLERY Act
- Higher Education Act
- Emergency Management and Assistance, 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)
- Mississippi Code Ann. 33-15-53 (1972), as amended
- Mississippi Code Ann. 37-11-51 (1972), as amended
- Mississippi Executive Order No. 932
- U.S. Department of Education: Guide for Developing High-Quality Emergency Operations for Institutions of Higher Education

## **Activation and Deactivation of Emergency Operations**

The activation of emergency operations is the responsibility of the Incident Commander (IC). The IC will then immediately notify University Police Department and Emergency Management (EM) Services. If deemed necessary, the EM Coordinator will communicate with the Crisis Action Team (CAT) and the Incident Response Team (IRT) to setup and activate additional resources, such as the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), as well as notify and make recommendations to the Senior Leadership Group (SLG) and the Chancellor.

## **Concept of Operations**

The CEMP is used to guide the prevention, response and recovery for the University of Mississippi. The plan provides guidance for the response to potential hazards and threats as they may occur.

The University’s Emergency Management Organization consists of those individuals and departmental representatives whose job responsibilities relate to one or more aspects of emergency preparedness and/or response to emergencies. The CEMP is written in a capabilities-based format as the framework for responding to and managing incidents caused by anticipated and unexpected hazards. Reflecting NIMS, the University of Mississippi categorizes incidents and emergencies into different types, providing a scalable and flexible approach to emergency response. Activation of specific capabilities and resources will be limited to those needed to respond to and manage the particular incident or event. As soon as practical, the incident will return to a local response level.



## Organization Structure and Responsibilities

### Chancellor

The University Chancellor is the senior authority for the campus and within the CEMP. The Chancellor is responsible for overseeing or delegating oversight of the University's CEMP.

### Senior Leadership Group

The Senior Leadership Group (SLG) is the policy decision making group of the university. The (SLG) provides executive and strategic leadership to the University during emergencies. The Chancellor or designee serves as the head of SLG and will convene the SLG as needed. The SLG also coordinates and communicates with the Chancellor's Office.

### Crisis Action Team

The Crisis Action Team (CAT) is the lead operational group for emergency management functions on the campus. It is chaired by the campus Emergency Management Coordinator. Positions on the CAT team are filled by positions from designated and relevant departments or offices. The team's function is to provide actionable guidance to the SLG and to monitor events effecting campus and advise on activation of the CEMP and/or the CEMP.

### Incident Response Team

The Incident Response Team (IRT) is a larger operational group to assist in fulfilling emergency management functions on campus. The IRT is also chaired by the Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC). CAT team members are also members of the IRT. Additional members of the IRT are chosen from various departments/offices across campus based on their roles in emergency response or recovery. Select others may be brought in as needed as subject matter experts (SMEs) depending on the type of incident or event. IRT members provide knowledgeable and actionable guidance to the CAT and the SLG when necessary. IRT members all fill roles as Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) within the EOC. The IRT is a critical need group that helps to evaluate emergency procedures and provide emergency response assistance and leadership.

### Emergency Management Services - University Police & Campus Safety

Emergency Management (EM) Services is the lead division for campus coordination to support emergency response operations. The EMC in coordination with and with direction from the IC (commonly the UPD Chief of Police and/or a Unified Command) establishes campus-wide response priorities, exercises overall direction and control of EM operations, and provides guidance and direction to EM operations. EM Services is charged with developing and maintaining the CEMP.



## **Faculty, Staff, and Students**

It is the responsibility of each member of our campus community to familiarize themselves with the emergency procedures and evacuations plans for each building he/she occupies. This includes offices, classrooms, dorms, and the various activity centers and event locations across campus. Also, each member of our community is responsible for evaluating their situation in an emergency and using common sense to act in a way that does not endanger themselves or those around them.

Faculty, Staff, and Students should notify UPD immediately if they observe a dangerous or life-threatening situation on or near campus. As representatives of the University, faculty and staff should be prepared to direct and assist other community members in evacuating buildings and maintaining order when safe and possible to do so. Students should be prepared to follow official communication and direction provided by the University during these emergencies.

Campus emergency information communications may come through the following sources: RebAlert texts, RebAlert emails, RebAlert social media, LiveSafe App push alerts, PA systems, UM Websites, TV/radio, digital signage, etc. Faculty, staff, and students should visit [www.olemiss.edu/emergency](http://www.olemiss.edu/emergency) for more information on campus emergency procedures and campus alerting.

## **Hazard, Threat, or Incident Specific Response**

Specific guidelines and directions for various hazards, threats, or incidents that could impact the University are provided to faculty, students, staff, and visitors on the UM Emergency Information website at [www.olemiss.edu/emergency](http://www.olemiss.edu/emergency) and also in our University's campus safety mobile app: LiveSafe ([www.olemiss.edu/mobile](http://www.olemiss.edu/mobile)).

## **Notification and Alerting for a Campus Emergency**

Notification that an emergency incident is occurring on campus may come from a variety of sources. Usually, the University Police Department (UPD) Communications Center is the first official University entity to know. Additionally, members of the CAT, IRT or Senior Leadership may be made aware through daily communications or be notified directly by an involved individual. Notifications of emergency conditions are essential to preserve the safety and security of the university community and critical to an effective response and recovery. The University utilizes multiple forms of communications for emergency notifications to best reach the greatest number of persons as possible. Campus emergency information communications may come through the following sources: RebAlert texts, RebAlert emails, RebAlert social media, LiveSafe App push alerts, PA systems, UM Websites, TV/radio, digital signage, etc. University Emergency Management Services and UPD, along with support from UM Marketing and Communications, is responsible for ensuring that notifications are issued and received when necessary to help best prepare the University for all threats and hazards.