

IMMEDIATE ACTION RESPONSE: THE BIG FIVE

The Big Five is a set of **IMMEDIATE ACTION RESPONSES** intended to be implemented quickly in any variety of emergency situations. When an emergency occurs, it is critical that staff members take *immediate* steps to protect *themselves*, their *students*, and *other people* on campus. Staff members must become familiar with each Immediate Action Response and be prepared to perform assigned responsibilities. All students must also be taught how to implement each of The Big Five protocols.

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BIG FIVE ACTION	WHEN	WHAT
SHELTER IN PLACE	Environmental hazards, dangerous air quality due to smoke or other contaminants, fire off-site, dangerous wildlife in the area, or severe weather	Isolate students and staff from the outdoor environment Go inside. If hazard is airborne, close doors, windows, and air vents. Shut down air conditioning/heating units
DROP, COVER AND HOLD ON	Earthquake, explosion, or falling debris	Protect students and staff from falling debris, drop to the floor, take cover under heavy furniture and hold on.
SECURE CAMPUS	Potential threat of violence in the surrounding community and/or police activity off-campus and nearby	Calmly direct all staff/students indoors Close and lock all classrooms/office doors Continue instruction as planned. Remain indoors until otherwise directed.
LOCKDOWN/ BARRICADE	Violent intruder on campus	Immediately seek safety indoors Once inside, lock and barricade all doors. Cover windows and turn off lights. Remain quiet and alert No one is allowed to enter or exit for any reason unless directed by law enforcement
EVACUATION	Bomb threat, chemical/gas leak, fire inside the building or nearby premises, severe weather alert, after an earthquake or explosion, or when implementing Student Release/Reunification	Use the “Look, Listen, and Leave” protocol. Once it is deemed safe to exit buildings, lead students and school staff from school buildings to a predetermined location.

For more information about specific hazards, see *Emergency Management Resource Guide*.