

Emergency Notification

Because of the number of students, faculty, staff and visitors at the University, as well as the assorted locations and events in which they are engaged (sporting events, classrooms, laboratories, dining halls, concerts, physical activities, etc.) identification of a single notification system that will reach everyone every time is difficult. To further complicate matters, the University of North Dakota's distributed locations make the use of one primary emergency notification system even more complex.

The University of North Dakota cannot ensure that every faculty member, staff, and student will be notified of every building or campus-wide emergency. An open campus with over 240 buildings situated on 547 plus acres with a transient and diverse population creates a difficult challenge when attempting to notify the entire campus community regarding a crisis situation. Problems arise when technology fails due to unforeseen circumstances or human error occurs in the activation phase of the existing emergency notification systems in place on-campus.

[UND-Alert](#) is the University of North Dakota's campus-wide emergency notification system. UND-Alert was established to improve UND's ability to communicate prior to, during, and after emergencies. UND students, faculty and staff with a valid ID number must register a phone number and email address to receive emergency alerts by email, telephone, or text. The system can push out thousands of messages within minutes. More information about UND-Alert registration and a comprehensive list of [frequently asked questions](#) may be found on the [UND-Alert](#) website.

UND-Alert will only be used when there is a severe threat to public safety and health of the entire campus. This is especially prudent when the threat has not been contained or controlled, and when immediate action is required on the part of the recipient group(s), (e.g. chemical spills impacting public health, tornado warnings, active shooters, etc.). UND-Alert activation policies exist for the UND campus, and the other ten North Dakota University System colleges and universities.

Other than two full system tests conducted every calendar year, this system will only be used for emergencies requiring immediate action on the part of the UND community. The [UND Emergency Management](#) website will be utilized during emergencies to provide additional information. The UND Emergency website is not intended to be a primary emergency notification tool during a campus-wide emergency. However, it will be useful in providing more detailed instructions and other pertinent information to the campus community.

UND EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION METHODS

Alert System	Uses	Type of Warnings	Administrator
UND-Alert	Campus-wide emergency requiring immediate action	Phone calls, text messages	Emergency Management
UND Emergency Website	Provide additional information	Web-based	Emergency Management
UND E-mail	Warnings, Emergencies and Updates	E-mail	University & Public Affairs
Blackboard Connect	Warnings, Emergencies and Updates	E-mail	University & Public Affairs
UND Channel 3	Emergency Messages	Captures the screen and displays information	University & Public Affairs
Police Car public address systems	Emergency Information	Emergency Information	UND Police Department
FM-Radio	Issue emergency statements	Radio/ Voice Station (KFJM-FM 90.7)	Prairie Public
Outdoor Sirens	Emergency Information	Audible outdoor siren	Operations Center/Emergency Management
NOAA Weather Radio	National, state and local hazards	Voice and tone	National Weather Service
“In Case of Crisis”	Alerts to users	Text	Operations Center/Emergency Management
International SOS	Alerts to users	Text/E-mail	Operations Center/Emergency Management
Veoci	Alerts to users	Texts, E-mails, Web-based	Emergency Management

Drills and Exercises

Building evacuation and sheltering drills are mandatory for student housing and encouraged for other University of North Dakota buildings. If building occupants wish to have a drill, the Building Safety and Security Representative and/or Building Safety Committee (BSC) may coordinate the drill and document it. All buildings and departments are encouraged to participate in the annual campus-wide exercise. The Office of Emergency Management can assist in departmental planning, implementation and evaluation of any drills that building personnel wish

to undertake in their building. Certain types of drills (lock-down, shelter in place, unannounced drills other than fire drills, etc.) require advanced planning and technical assistance, and should only be developed with assistance from, and consultation with, Emergency Management personnel. Fire and severe weather drill evaluation forms are available for use on the [Emergency Management](#) website. Although the use of the drill evaluation forms are not mandatory, the forms may be useful in tracking and improving building drills from year to year.

UND leadership and departments regularly participate in tabletop exercises and emergency drills on-campus, in the community and with state officials. Typically, a full-scale live simulation will be held on-campus during the year to test predetermined response objectives in order to better prepare campus and local responders for real emergencies. The Office of Emergency Management regularly designs and orchestrates these full-scale simulations and recruits volunteers from the campus and local community to serve as role players during the exercise. All exercises are conducted utilizing standard NIMS and ICS principles. In addition, comprehensive after action reviews are completed for each campus drill, tabletop exercise, and full-scale simulation.

Mutual Aid Agreements

Since the University of North Dakota's main campus is located within Grand Forks County and the City of Grand Forks, the University is included in the Local Emergency Operations Planning and receives assistance through a Mutual Aid Agreement. Discussions with the Emergency Management Coordinator for Grand Forks County regarding a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) have indicated that a MOU is not necessary between UND and Grand Forks County in order to continue to receive emergency management services.

For special emergency response teams and circumstances that fall outside the typical emergency response to citizens of Grand Forks, MOU's Letter of Understanding and Mutual Aid Agreements have been established. The University maintains mutual aid assistance agreements with appropriate law enforcement agencies, details of which can be obtained from the Office of the Vice President for Finance and Operations.

Mutual aid agreements are retained by the participating department on campus and the Office of Emergency Management maintains a copy on file. Existing agreements with local emergency response partners include the following:

- Grand Forks Police Department/UND Police Department MOU
- Grand Forks City Fire Department MOU (fire services)
- Altru Ambulance services
- Altru Hospital Emergency Room services
- American Red Cross