



University of New Hampshire

**Emergency Evacuation Plan
Durham Campus**

November 2021

Updated April 2024

Introduction

This Plan establishes a consistent operational methodology and strategy for the University of New Hampshire (UNH) and its agencies to plan for and support local and regional evacuations and shelter in place strategies. UNH Emergency Management initiated development of this evacuation plan in order to develop an all-hazards concept of operations to coordinate effort, maximize resources, and achieve unity of effort for large-scale evacuations involving a partial or full evacuation of the UNH Durham campus. This plan builds on both the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the National Response Framework (NRF) and provides a structure for unity of command and the coordination of resources to support an all hazards evacuation plan. While the fundamental concepts detailed within this plan are scalable and may be implemented in response to a variety of incidents in size and scope, the intent of this plan is to address the need for coordination and logistical support in the event of large-scale evacuations and/or shelter-in-place protective actions.

Purpose

This Plan establishes an operational framework for UNH to manage and coordinate mass evacuations and/or shelter in place protective actions in response to any hazard. Evacuations may be required as a result of notice or no-notice events and under a wide range of conditions. This plan provides policy and guidance for state evacuation response and recovery operations, details a concept of operation for mass evacuations, facilitates efforts to maintain situational awareness and the development of a common operating picture, and assigns responsibility for evacuation and shelter-in-place coordination and logistical support to UNH Police Office of Emergency Management.

Scope and Applicability

Most evacuations are limited in scale and scope and can be managed within the UNH campus using local plans and resources without the need for outside assistance. Larger or more complex evacuations, particularly those affecting the UNH/Durham communities or where evacuees must be directed out of the community where an incident has occurred, will likely require state-level coordination and/or logistical and resource support. Incidents may be “notice” or “no-notice” based on the hazard and include:

- Sheltering in place.
- Evacuations where local resources are expended or fully committed to life safety response and/or other incident-related operations and unavailable to effectively coordinate required activities.
- Large-scale incidents requiring coordinated evacuation of individuals. Such instances may be significant in terms of populations or land area and/or require complex logistical and resource support to accomplish.

- Incidents requiring significant mutual aid assistance and state coordination to accommodate the movement of an evacuating population from one or more communities to shelter in host communities.

This plan applies to all UNH Durham campus entities participating in shelter in place and evacuation operations that may require coordination, including state agencies, quasi-independent state authorities, non-governmental organizations, and private entities.

This plan is intended for use by UNH, state agencies, and non-governmental organizations with a role in evacuation coordination and operations. It establishes a scalable concept of operations for coordination between UNH and other States or federal agencies should such coordination be necessary, and is intended to guide the development of local and regional evacuation plans in order to ensure consistency of operations.

To coordinate evacuation and shelter in place efforts, UNH Police Office of Emergency Management will request activation of the Senior Management Group (SMG), activation of the UNH Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the University Emergency Group (UEG). The UEG is comprised of representatives from UNH Emergency Support Functions (ESF's) and will be based upon the needs of the incident. The UEG may include, but will not be limited to, the following ESFs:

- 1: Transportation/Evacuation
- 2: Communications and Alerting
- 3: Operations, Maintenance & Energy
- 4: Fire Fighting
- 5: Public Information and Planning
- 6: Mass Care, Shelter, Human Services
- 7: Resource Support
- 8: Health and Medical Services
- 9: Search and Rescue
- 10: Food Services
- 11: Law Enforcement and Security
- 12: Research and Environmental Health and Safety
- 13: Academic and Cultural Affairs
- 14: Durham Community
- 15: UNH Manchester
- 16: UNH FP Law-Concord

Authority to Order Evacuations

The authority to order an evacuation and/or shelter in place will come from the Incident Commander or SMG. It is expected that UNH will notify and coordinate evacuations and/or shelter in place with NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management State Emergency Operations Center. The Governor may order and enforce an evacuation and/or shelter in place of a geographical area of the UNH under a declared State of Emergency. UNH may request the Governor to make such a declaration on their behalf under extreme circumstances.

Situation, Policies, and Assumptions

UNH is subject to a variety of natural, technological, and human-caused disasters that may necessitate the evacuation and/or sheltering in place of faculty, staff, students and visitors. In most instances, sheltering in place and/or evacuation decision-making and coordination start at the local level and are driven by a local determination and decision that a hazard requires the movement of populations. This plan provides coordination and logistical support to in situations where the needs of the evacuation exceed or overwhelm local resources and capabilities.

Evacuation Planning

UNH Police Office of Emergency Management maintains evacuation plans to support in planning for and implementing evacuations due to impacts from all hazards. These plans provide the context for, and resources needed to support, an evacuation from the local or regional level, and also ensure the access and functional needs of all populations are considered.

Evacuation Coordination Plan

The Evacuation Plan establishes a consistent framework for UNH Durham to plan for and support local evacuations. The Coordination of mass evacuations during emergencies and disasters within UNH Durham will involve numerous response agencies and jurisdictions and timely, effective coordination between all stakeholders. This Evacuation Plan provides operational guidance for emergency management activities coordinated at the UNH Emergency Operation Center and the State EOC (SEOC) related to evacuations resulting from notice and no notice incidents. This plan also accounts for scenarios where temporary areas of refuge (TAR) may be more appropriate, and therefore effective. -

Critical Transportation Plan (CTP)

The Critical Transportation (CTP) Plan, which is part of the UNH Emergency Operations Plan (ESF 1), provides the foundational elements and overarching principles pertaining to a local Critical Transportation (CTP) evacuation. Some of UNH 's population is those who lack personal transportation and requires UNH provided transportation assistance to evacuate out of an at-risk area to a designated temporary area of refuge. Additionally, the Plan incorporates routes, assets and processes in conjunction with state support for evacuation operations. The SMG, UEG or designated commander will reallocate UNH transportation assets (busses) to evacuate the affected area(s) to one or more of the Temporary Areas of Refuge or an off-site location.

Notification to Evacuate

When an emergency incident has occurred the Communication and Alerting Group will become active when activated by the Senior Management Group/EOC/University Emergency Group, or the emergency incident commander who is managing the response to an emergency. Communications will be sent through:

- UNH ALERT/RAVE system

- UNH Email
- UNH Website
- UNH External Mass Communications System

Building Evacuations and Areas of Refuge

- All building evacuations will occur when an alarm sounds and/or upon notification by University Police, or safety officials.
- When the building evacuation alarm is activated during an emergency, leave by the nearest marked exit and alert others to do the same.
- Do not use the elevators in case of fire and/or earthquake. Their safe operation during emergencies cannot be guaranteed.
- Once outside, proceed to a clear area that is at least 500 feet away from the affected building. Keep streets, fire lanes, hydrant areas, and walkways clear for emergency vehicles and personnel. Know your assembly points.
- Do not return to an evacuated building unless told to do so by fire or police personnel on the scene.

Important: After an evacuation, report to the area recommended by the responding emergency personnel. Follow any department or building evacuation plans.

Campus Area Evacuations

- The SMG, UEG, fire chief, police chief, or their designee will announce evacuation of all or part of the campus grounds. Procedures will follow ESF 6 of the UNH EOP.
- The order may be given through the UNH ALERT system.
- You may be directed to another section of campus or entirely off campus. UNH Transportation busses will be reallocated to transport people to the appropriate **Temporary Area of Refuge (TAR)**
- The 3 TAR's identified on the UNH Durham campus are
 - Hamel Recreation Center
 - Lundholm Gymnasium
 - Memorial Union Building
- When such an order is given, immediately vacate the area in question and relocate to another part of the campus grounds as directed. Building managers are responsible for aiding occupants in their buildings that require assistance

Note: Stay in the safe area if you can. If you must leave to go to another safe location, and it is safe to do so, you can. However, try to let others know your plans. Fire or police officials will notify you once the emergency situation has ended or has been contained.

Evacuation Routes:

Law Enforcement/Emergency Responders will be coordinating evacuation at all major intersections.

Primary evacuation routes off campus include;

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- College Rd
- McDaniel Dr
- North Rd
- South Rd
- Gables Wy
- Access/Stadium Way
- Edgewood Rd
- Main St
- Garrison Ave
- Madbury Rd
- Mill Rd
- Mast Rd

All of these will lead to a major evacuation route to include;

- Route 4 east & west
- Route 155A
- Route 155
- Route 108 North & South
- Packers Falls Rd east & west