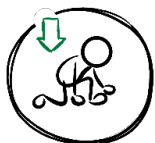


## An Open Letter About Earthquake Safety

Schools are increasingly installing ShakeAlert® Earthquake Early Warning technology to strengthen their resilience to earthquakes. Your school is among them! This technology can play an important role in keeping children, teachers, staff, and visitors safe at school during shaking from an earthquake.

Earthquake Early Warning (EEW) relies on earthquake information from the U.S. Geological Survey, in partnership with your state, to manage the nation's only public EEW system. ShakeAlert serves over 50 million people in California, Oregon, and Washington. When the potential for strong earthquake shaking is expected at school, ShakeAlert-powered technology automatically broadcasts alerts through the school's public address system. This could provide valuable time to take a protective action before strong shaking arrives. Schools may also use this technology to conduct earthquake drills. Students will be excited to share and show how they take a protective action; ask them!

Scientists cannot predict when an earthquake will occur, which is why it is so important to be prepared and respond appropriately and quickly. **You can sign up at no cost to receive alerts on your cell phone.** These alerts can save lives and reduce injuries by providing you, members of your household, and other community members with potential seconds to take a protective action, such as **Drop, Cover, and Hold On** if you feel shaking or get an alert.















**If you FEEL SHAKING or GET AN ALERT...**

**DROP!**

**COVER!**

**HOLD ON!**

<b>Using a cane?</b>	 <b>DROP!</b>	 <b>COVER!</b>	 <b>HOLD ON!</b>
<b>Using a walker?</b>	 <b>LOCK!</b>	 <b>COVER!</b>	 <b>HOLD ON!</b>
<b>Using a wheelchair?</b>	 <b>LOCK!</b>	 <b>COVER!</b>	 <b>HOLD ON!</b>
<b>In a bed?</b>	 <b>TURN!</b>	 <b>COVER!</b>	 <b>HOLD ON!</b>

<b>Outdoors?</b>	 <b>MOVE TO AN OPEN SPACE</b>	 <b>DROP! COVER!</b>	 <b>HOLD ON!</b>
<b>Driving?</b>	 <b>SLOW DOWN</b>	 <b>PULL OVER, STOP</b>	 <b>STAY INSIDE!</b>
<b>On the Coast?</b>	<p>The shaking is your tsunami warning. Tsunami waves may arrive for hours. Wait for shaking to stop, then ...</p>		
	<b>Go to high ground or inland immediately!</b>		<b>Stay there until local officials say it's safe to return.</b>

## Earthquake Preparedness Actions

- ✓ **Sign up** to receive ShakeAlert-powered EEW alerts.
  - [www.usgs.gov/faqs/how-do-i-sign-shakealertr-earthquake-early-warning-system](http://www.usgs.gov/faqs/how-do-i-sign-shakealertr-earthquake-early-warning-system)
- ✓ **Learn more about ShakeAlert and ShakeAlert Ready Schools!**
  - [www.ShakeAlert.org](http://www.ShakeAlert.org)
  - [www.ShakeAlert.org/education-and-outreach/shakealert-ready-schools/](http://www.ShakeAlert.org/education-and-outreach/shakealert-ready-schools/)
- ✓ **Practice protective actions with members of your household and community members as if you feel shaking or get an alert. Practice regularly and in different locations.**
  - See the diagram on the previous page.
- ✓ **Make sure every member of your household knows your emergency plan, including phone numbers and a meeting place.**
  - [www.ready.gov/plan](http://www.ready.gov/plan)
- ✓ **Assemble an earthquake/emergency supply kit.**
  - [www.ready.gov/kit](http://www.ready.gov/kit)
- ✓ **Secure your space by identifying hazards and securing moveable items.**
  - [www.earthquakecountry.org/step1/](http://www.earthquakecountry.org/step1/)
- ✓ **Connect with your state's emergency management agency.**
  - **Washington Emergency Management Division**  
[mil.wa.gov/emergency-management-division](http://mil.wa.gov/emergency-management-division)
  - **Oregon Department of Emergency Management**  
[www.oregon.gov/OEM/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/OEM/Pages/default.aspx)
  - **California Governor's Office of Emergency Services**  
[www.caloes.ca.gov/](http://www.caloes.ca.gov/)

Thank you for helping your community to be earthquake resilient!