



Syracuse University Department of Public Safety



Response Guidelines: Active Shooter Incident

The following guidelines are intended to reduce your personal risk in the unlikely event that an Active Shooter Incident should occur on campus.

You Have Three Options:

RUN

- Have an escape route and plan in mind
- Leave your belongings behind
- Leave promptly using the nearest exit
- Help others escape, if possible
- Do not attempt to move the wounded
- Prevent others from entering an area where the active shooter may be
- Keep your hands visible
- Call 911 or DPS when you are safe
- Meet at the designated meeting location (if established)

HIDE

- Hide in an area out of the shooter's view
- Do not stand by doors or windows
- Lock door or block entry to your hiding place
- Turn off the lights and close the blinds
- Silence your cell phone (including vibrate mode) and remain quiet
- Keep yourself out of sight and find adequate cover (i.e. concrete walls, thick desks, filing cabinets, cover that might protect you from bullets)

FIGHT

- Fight as a last resort, and only when your life is in imminent danger
- Attempt to incapacitate the shooter
- Act with as much physical aggression as possible
- Improvise weapons or throw items at the shooter
- Commit to your actions - your life depends on it

When Law Enforcement Arrives:

- Officers will be armed with rifles, handguns or shotguns
- Officers might shout commands and might push individuals to the ground for their safety
- Remain calm and follow the officers' instructions
- Put down any items in your hands and immediately raise hands and spread fingers
- Keep hands visible at all times
- Avoid making quick movements toward officers such as attempting to hold on to them for safety
- Avoid pointing, screaming and/or yelling
- Do not ask questions when evacuating

What to Report:

- Location of the active shooter
- Number of shooters
- Physical description of shooters
- Number and type of weapons shooter has

How to Report:

- Dial 711 from any University phone
- Dial 315-443-2224 from any other phone
- Be aware that the Public Safety numbers might be overwhelmed. If this happens, consider dialing 911.