

Weather – Severe, Tornado

The primary context of this plan is for severe weather catastrophes. However, the basic emergency procedure is adaptable to other listed occurrences.

Concept of Operations

ABAC Police (Department of Public Safety) will monitor the National Weather Service radio and will initiate notifications when severe weather bulletins are issued for the immediate area:

Tornado/Thunderstorm/Wind Watch- indicates that atmospheric conditions are conducive for the development of the stated warning. Normal operations will continue. Employees should keep a close eye on changing weather conditions and be prepared to take action if necessary.

Tornado/Thunderstorm/Wind Warning- indicates that the hazardous condition stated has been spotted or identified on radar. When these conditions immediately threaten the campus, the ABAC Police (Department of Public Safety) will first sound the campus emergency siren and will then issue notification through telephone communications to the Campus Emergency Response Team members. If necessary, ABAC Police may also issue verbal instructions through the campus emergency siren PA system.

Action

Hazardous weather conditions can develop in seconds and will not allow for formal means of communication. In the event that the campus emergency siren sounds or an employee feels that weather is immediately threatening, they should initiate the following actions:

TAKE COVER: Instruct students, employees, and others in the immediate area to find a wall near the interior of the building away from windows and exterior doors. Individuals will curl up in a ball or fetal position near the wall, place their hands over their head and remain in that position until the severe weather passes.

DO NOT LEAVE THE BUILDING OR INITIATE A BUILDING EVACUATION DURING THESE CIRCUMSTANCES. WHEN SEVERE WEATHER STRIKES, POWER MAY BE DISRUPTED CAUSING ALARMS TO SOUND. IF FIRE IS NOT IMMEDIATELY PRESENT AND A CLEAR EXIT IS MAINTAINED, EVERYONE SHOULD REMAIN UNTIL SEVERE WEATHER PASSES.