

LOCKDOWN FAQ's

What is a Lockdown?

A Lockdown is the confinement of people inside secured rooms for safety measures. It is used when a serious threat exists to the campus that requires students, faculty, employees and visitors to remain in a locked facility for safety. Examples of threats include a fugitive in the area or an intruder in a school.

How will a Lockdown be initiated?

A lockdown will be initiated via an announcement over the Public Address (PA) system.

How will I know when the Lockdown is over?

The end of the event will be announced over the PA system coupled with Police and University Administrators clearing rooms (Note: Police and University Administrators will not clear rooms at the end of a lockdown drill).

Is it considered safe to leave the building during a lockdown?

If you believe you can safely exit the building and safely get to a safe area than yes. However, it would not be advisable to leave the building via a well-travelled stair well and/or if you're chosen area of safe refuge can only be reached via traversing open areas.

Why are persons in Lockdown supposed to stay off their phones?

Persons in Lockdown are supposed to stay off their phones as their usage may contribute to the overwhelming of communication networks which could adversely impact emergency response. However, if they have pertinent information, and it is safe to do so, it should be conveyed via 911.

What constitutes pertinent information?

Pertinent information would include things that would assist emergency responders in neutralizing the threat(s). Examples of this would be the number of offenders involved, what they are wearing, which direction they are heading, what types of weaponry they may be carrying. Pertinent information would **not** include the conveyance of "we are in lockdown" as emergency responders will be aware we are in Lockdown via the initiation of the Lockdown.

What if the fire alarm sounds during a lockdown?

If the fire alarm sounds during a lockdown, do not leave your safe place of refuge unless there are hazardous signs of smoke or fire in your immediate vicinity. Violent offenders have been known to activate the fire alarm and/or intentionally start a fire to lure people out into the open.

What if someone knocks on the door during a lockdown?

Do not answer it. Continue to remain quiet.

If my chosen safe place of refuge has an Accessibility door opener on it does it need to be deactivated?

Yes. Accessibility door openers can override a locked door and therefore must be deactivated. Typically they can be deactivated via a switch which is located on the bottom or side of the accessibility power box which is mounted on top of the door.

Should I cover windows during a lockdown?

Windows should only be covered if room occupants cannot get out of window sight lines. Covering windows could draw unwanted attention to the room.