

EVACUATION OF DISABLED

If there is an emergency that affects occupants of wheelchairs and other disabled persons, the following evacuation procedures should be adhered to:

1. All persons shall move toward the nearest marked exit. Remember the following:
 - a. Do not use elevators.
 - b. When a wheelchair occupant or other person with mobility impairment reaches an obstruction, such as a staircase, he/she should request help from others in the area. Yellow Evac-Chairs are located near the top of each stairwell and are to be used in assisting mobility-impaired persons down the stairs.
 - c. If help is not immediately available, the wheelchair occupant or other person with mobility impairment should stay in the area in front of the elevator or on the exit stairwells. He/she should continue to call for help until rescued.

Rescue personnel, campus security personnel, or the emergency response team will first check elevator lobby areas and exit stairwells for trapped persons. Once they have evacuated any trapped persons, they will then check restrooms, classrooms, offices, and all common use areas. They will flash lights in addition to doing visual and verbal checks to alert deaf/hard of hearing persons.

2. Assist a hearing impaired person in an emergency as follows:
 - a. FLASH LIGHTS ON and OFF, wave, or tap the shoulder of a deaf or hard of hearing person to alert him/her to an emergency.
 - b. Face a deaf person directly and speak clearly and naturally. He/she may be trying to read your lips.
 - c. Have a pad and pencil available so that you can attempt to communicate in writing. Print clearly.

3. Assist a blind person in an emergency as follows:

Assign a "buddy" to help the blind person evacuate according to the regular procedures.