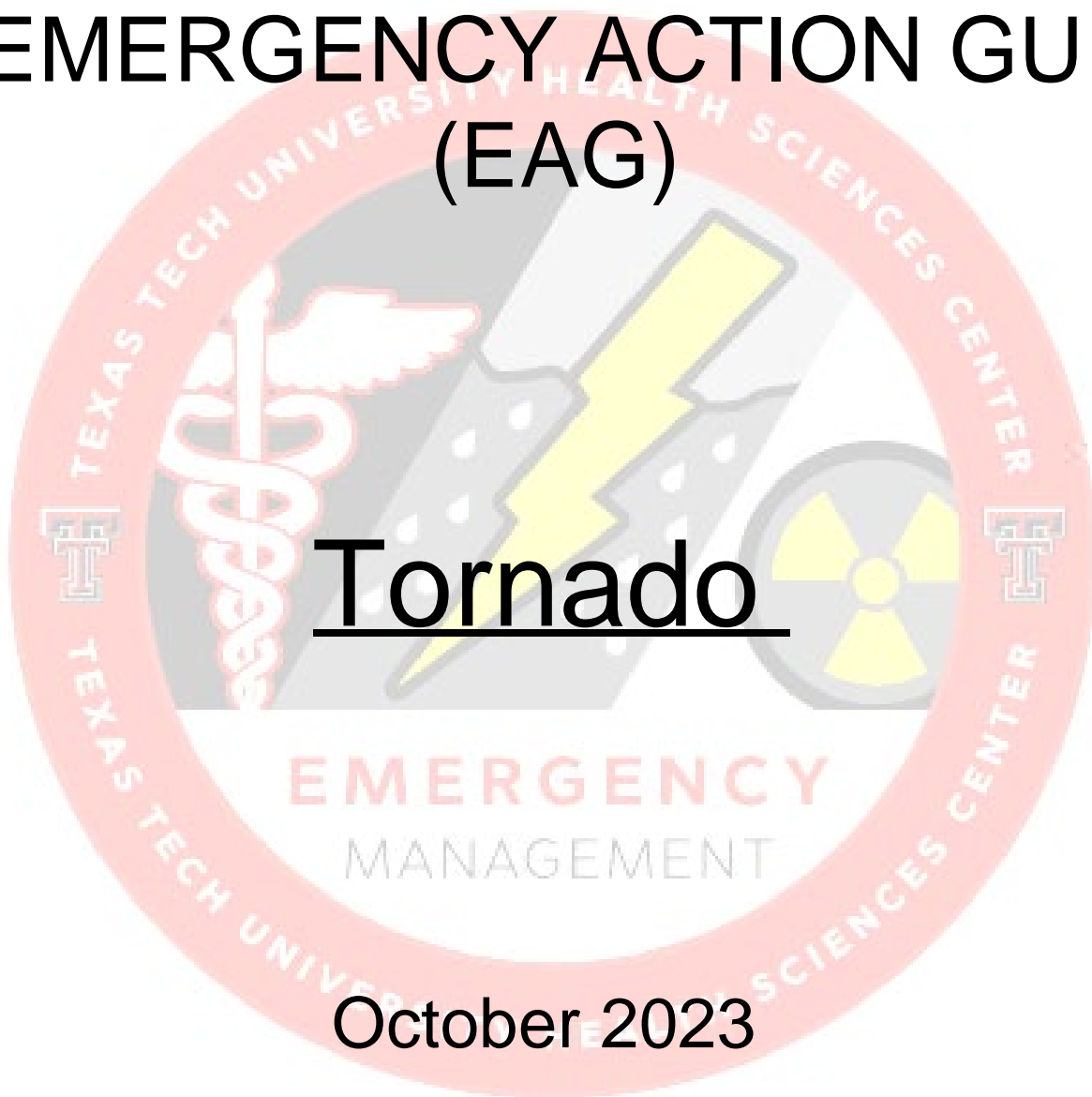


EMERGENCY ACTION GUIDE (EAG)



October 2023

Emergency Action Guide

TORNADO

While Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center strives to make our campuses as safe and secure as possible, personal safety ultimately becomes a personal responsibility. How safe you are depends on your preparation and how much attention you pay to your surroundings.

This Emergency Action Guide (EAG) will assist you by providing basic guidelines and actions for you to use to enhance your own personal safety. Read this plan and become familiar with actions you should take in the event of a **tornado**. This guide may not address every specific situation; however, the guidelines and actions found here may be adapted to fit the particular situation or circumstance you are facing.

The TTUHSC **STAT!Alert Emergency Notification System** is used to notify the TTUHSC Community of emergency situations, weather-related campus delay or closings, and other important information via text telephone, and e-mail. **Don't be left out – go to the [STAT!Alert](#) portal and update your account to assure you have activated the notifications you wish to receive!**

When there is a **tornado**, you have got to be prepared. It is important to have the resources you need – information, updates, and planning – all linked from a central place. When faced with an emergency, you will know what to do, where to go, and how to respond.

Read this EAG. Be prepared!

Tornado

Tornadoes are considered to be one of nature's most violent storms. With winds that can reach 300 miles per hour and damage paths in excess of one mile wide, this deadly phenomena can form in a matter of seconds.

Know the Terms

First, you must familiarize yourself with the differences between a tornado watch and tornado warning.

- **Tornado Watch:** This means that tornadoes are possible. You should remain alert for approaching storms, watch the sky and stay tuned to NOAA Weather Radios, commercial radio, or the local news for more information.
- **Tornado Warning:** This means that a tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. You should take shelter immediately.

If a TORNADO WARNING has been issued, you should:

If in a sturdy building:

- Go to the basement or lowest floor of the building.
- Stay away from exterior walls, doors, and windows.
- Move to interior hallways and small interior rooms (e.g., bathroom, closet, etc.).
- Get under a piece of furniture if possible (e.g. sturdy table, desk).
- Call 911 if emergency help is needed.

If outside or in your vehicle:

- Leave vehicles or portable structures for more substantial shelter.
- Do not try to outrun a tornado in your vehicle.
- If caught outside or in a vehicle with an approaching tornado, lie flat in a ditch or depression well away from any objects (including your vehicle) that could blow over or roll over you causing injury or death.

Remember:

- Tornado safety is primarily based on avoiding wind-blown debris when tornadoes are near.
- The common thread in tornado safety is putting as many walls as you can between you and the tornado.
- Always move to the lowest floor of the building you can safely get to before the tornado strikes.

