

Campus-wide Simultaneous Evacuation Drill

Drill Objectives & Requests

Nagoya University buildings are designed to withstand earthquakes of a certain seismic intensity and are thus unlikely to collapse in any single earthquake. However, certain disaster scenarios (e.g. damage to building pillars or other key structural elements) may still require an immediate evacuation.

To prepare for these types of situations, the university will conduct the simultaneous evacuation drill as the first trial in this year.

The drill will kick off with the issuance of an emergency earthquake warning, followed by the issuance of an earthquake alert, after which students will start evacuating.

The drill is meant to provide an opportunity for students to learn how to respond appropriately during an earthquake situation. Students should follow the instructions of their lecturers in response to the warning/alert, and evacuate to safety.

An additional important goal of the drill is to supply students with building-specific information regarding earthquake evacuation.

The key objective, however, is to keep everyone secure so please evacuate in a prudent manner without resorting to potentially dangerous actions.



Top floor of 4-story building sustained damage



3rd-floor pillar in multi-story building demolished



1st-floor support column in 2-story building fractured



Fire outbreak in laboratory

Damage Inflicted by Great East Japan Earthquake on Tohoku University



Hole pierced through a wall by rescue team as inward-opening door got stuck



Conditions inside a laboratory: a draft chamber was moved by the earthquake and lab instruments were scattered across the floor.



The quake also moved heavy lab equipment. Anyone staying behind would have been crushed between moving equipment and walls.



Tables crushed under the weight of collapsed bookshelves

When an emergency earthquake warning is issued

What would you do if an emergency earthquake warning was issued at this very moment? You should consider this question carefully and prepare yourself mentally so you can evacuate to safety without wasting even as much as 10 seconds in the event of a real earthquake. Make sure you formulate an appropriate response for different scenarios. For example, what would you do (1) if in the middle of an experiment, (2) if in a research room surrounded by book shelves, (3) if halfway up a flight of stairs, (4) if in an elevator, or (5) if in other locations.

Following the March 11 earthquake, many students at Tohoku University commented they escaped from harm by simply evacuating to nearby hallways or acting in accordance with prior evacuation drills at the time the emergency earthquake warning was issued.

When the shaking starts

Once the shaking starts, protect yourself while guarding against potential falling objects. Earthquakes in the Tokai and Tonankai regions typically start off with mild shaking, which subsequently intensifies. The shaking generally last between one and three minutes. Shaking is felt more strongly when inside a building, and increases in intensity on upper floors (i.e. the higher the floor, the stronger the shaking). In fact, during the March 11 earthquake, Tohoku University sustained the worst damage on the upper floors of its buildings.



Collapsed ceilings at an indoor swimming pool (After the earthquake damage report of Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism)

When in open spaces, always anticipate the possibility that the ceiling may collapse !

At the time of the Great East Japan Earthquake, even areas that registered shaking with intensity levels 5–6 reported numerous cases of damage originating from collapsed ceilings. To give just one specific example, a collapsed ceiling at Tokyo's Kudan Kaikan resulted in several fatalities. Note that comparatively new buildings are also prone to ceiling collapses during an earthquake.

If experiencing an earthquake while in an open space such as a gymnasium, stay close to the walls, leave the building, or take other appropriate measures.



Evacuate to Safety

Once the shaking subsides, follow the instructions of your lecturer and evacuate from the building. There is no need to hurry. Keep in mind the "four don'ts" and evacuate in an orderly manner.

If available, follow the designated evacuation route for the department or building you are in.

If you encounter a fire brigade or self defense forces unit on the evacuation route, follow their instructions.

**Don't push
Don't run
Don't talk
Don't go back**

Safety Confirmation Drills

Nagoya University has developed a Safety Confirmation System in preparation of natural disasters. When a disaster strikes, the university's top priority is to confirm the safety of all its members.

Each member is responsible to notify their safety via the Safety Confirmation System.

To ensure familiarity with the system under disaster situations, everyone should participate in the Safety Confirmation Drills.

Notify your personal safety via the Safety Confirmation System starting at 12:00, Oct. 20, 2011!



Access the Safety Confirmation System here:
<http://mynu.jp/k/>

