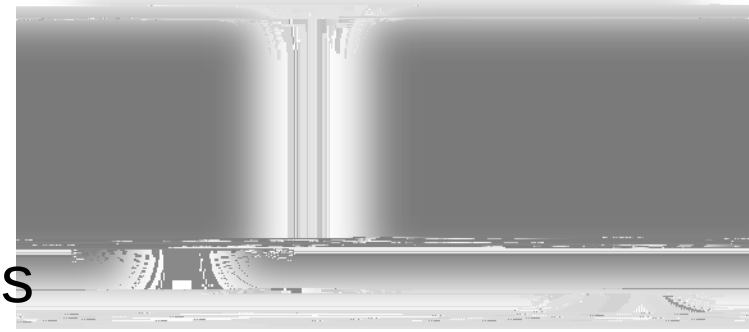
Earthquake Safety in Labs



Before an Earthquake:

Walk around your work area to identify the best approach to take in the event of an earthquake. As research and teaching labs have potential additional risks due to hazardous materials, glass and heavy equipment, consider the following earthquake response

Consider how you may need to adapt this technique based on where time of the shaking and your proximity to nearby hazards.

If you are in a pla dous, ground so you ar nd the

HOLD ON to a stable object in the room so you are not knocked over during violent shaking.

After an Earthquake:

Move cautiously as objects will have shifted during the shaking, creating unexpected obstacles or hazards.

As soon as possible, turn off gas or other valves; secure hazardous materials.

If there are known hazardous materials in the room that may have been released during the earthquake, evacuate the area immediately, but move cautiously. Do NOT pull the fire alarm unless there is a fire.

Move outdoors away from buildings, as strong aftershocks may occur. Take your personal belongings (wallet, purse, laptop, keys, etc.) and watch for building hazards inside or falling from the exterior of the building.

Do not re-enter the building until a damage assessment has been completed by Facilities Management. This could be hours or days depending on the extent of the damage to campus.

Once outside, make your way to the UVic Campus Assembly Area (playing fields) via safe routes for further information.

Make sure you CHECK IN with a Building or Floor Emergency Coordinator, or your supervisor before leaving the area so you are accounted for. Report any information you have on injured people or hazmat concerns.