

## Evacuation

### Suggestions for Emergency Evacuations of Disabled Persons:

Persons with disabilities are not necessarily helpless, and can serve as resources for their individual conditions and needs. Therefore, when offering assistance, ask the person how you can assist them. In an emergency, have them take your elbow and then guide them from the building, describing the nearest exit and obstacles in their path.

2.) Ensure that a deaf or hearing impaired person has a visual alarm system in the classroom that has been instructed in its use. Have written notes ready, if appropriate, which describe the nature of the emergency.

3.) Instructors are notified of individual students requiring special evacuation procedures. Assign one or two students in the class who will assist the wheelchair user while the other students evacuate. No student is obligated to remain in the classroom when personal safety is at risk.

### Wheelchair Users:

police/fire rescue attempts will be made easier by the least amount of floor traffic in that stairwell.  
g.) Generally, more equipment or weight requires more persons to help in the evacuation. Get a fellow employee to help you with the movement and transportation of persons who are disabled.

**Persons Otherwise Not Ambulatory:**

Persons using braces, crutches, canes or walkers should be treated as injured for evacuation procedures. Lifting options include the following:

1. two-man lock arm position;
2. transferring person to a sturdy office chair, preferable with arms;
3. if carrying a person more than three flights, a relay team arrangement.

Following is a list of the most common fears persons with disabilities have in an evacuation.

1. Fear of leaving the wheelchair behind as it is very expensive (\$2000+) to replace. It takes a long time to obtain a replacement because many chairs are adapted to individual needs.
2. Fear of not being lifted properly.
3. Fear that other people may not be responsive to instructions of lifting and carrying.
4. Fear of being dropped while being carried.
5. Fear of being the last priority for evacuation.
6. Fear of not being informed of evacuation procedures.

Remember, the most important point is to **USE COMMON SENSE**. Assess the situation thoroughly and decide on possible options. Decisions depend on time available, number of persons available and individual tolerance or preference of the person being helped.

EEP

8. Distribution : Complete copies to be distributed to Occupant, Evacuation Assistant(s), Office of Safety, Academic Accessibility College Counsel, Resident Life, Resident Director, Engle Center, Emergency Dispatch, Upper Allen Fire Department.

## Disabled Occupant Evacuation Plan

Effective Date: \_Jan



Evacuation Assistant		Academic Accessibility		Resident Director			
Evacuation Assistant		Assoc. Dean for Res. Life		Facilities			
Upper Allen Fire Dept.		Engle Center		Emergency Dispatch			

DISABLED OCCUPANT EVACUATION PLAN, page two

Alarm Procedure:

9 Audible Alarm

9 Visual Alarm: \_\_\_\_\_

9 Bed Shaker/Vibrator

9 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Protection Procedure: [If individual is unable to self-evacuate]

9 Remain in place until notified to evacuate. If individual is unable to self-evacuate, staff shall remain with individual until notified to evacuate. If individual is unable to self-evacuate, staff shall remain with individual until notified to evacuate.

Concerns \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a Class or Conference Schedule.