

## II. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

The University’s response to threats, hazards, and emergencies is based on four phases:

- Increased readiness;
- Initial response operations;
- Extended response operations; and
- Recovery operations.

During each phase, specific actions will be taken to reduce and/or eliminate the threat, hazard, or emergency. In coordination with the Vice-President for Student Affairs and Incident Commanders, the UMDPS Director/Chief of Police will determine the phase and initiate the appropriate level of alert for response agencies, including the activation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as required. Following are details regarding activities that will occur during each of the four phases.

<b>INCREASED READINESS</b>	
<b>Upon receipt of a warning or the observation that a threat, hazard, or emergency is imminent or likely to occur soon, the University will initiate actions to increase its readiness.</b>	
<b>Triggers for Readiness Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issuance of a credible, long-term tornado prediction;</li> <li>• Receipt of a flood advisory or other special weather statement;</li> <li>• Receipt of a warning regarding a potentially severe snow storm;</li> <li>• Conditions conducive to fires, such as the combination of high heat, strong winds, and low humidity;</li> <li>• An expansive hazardous materials incident; and</li> <li>• Information or circumstances indicating the potential for acts of violence, terrorism, or civil disturbance.</li> </ul>
<b>Examples of Readiness Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing a situation briefing to the UMCP President, key officials, and employees of the University;</li> <li>• Reviewing and updating the UMEOP and related SOPs;</li> <li>• Increasing public information efforts;</li> <li>• Accelerating training efforts;</li> <li>• Inspecting critical facilities and equipment, including testing warning and communications systems;</li> <li>• Recruiting additional staff and alerting contractors;</li> <li>• Warning threatened elements of the population;</li> <li>• Conducting precautionary evacuations in the potentially impacted area(s);</li> </ul>

- Mobilizing personnel and pre-positioning resources and equipment; and;
- Establishing or activating staging areas.

## INITIAL RESPONSE OPERATIONS

The University's initial response activities are primarily performed at the field response level, and emphasis is placed on minimizing the effects of the threat, hazard, or emergency. Field responders will use the [Incident Command System \(ICS\)](#) to organize a response to the threat, hazard, or emergency incorporating the functions, principles and components of ICS (i.e., Unified Command, Action Planning, Span of Control, Hierarchy of Command, etc.)

### Examples of Initial Response Activities

- Making all necessary notifications;
- Disseminating warnings, emergency public information, and instructions to the University community;
- Conducting evacuations and/or rescue operations;
- Caring for displaced persons and treating the injured;
- Conducting initial damage assessments and surveys;
- Assessing the need for mutual aid assistance;
- Restricting movement of traffic/people and unnecessary access to affected areas;
- Establishing Unified Command;
- Coordinating with State and federal agencies; and
- Developing and implementing Incident Action Plans (IAPs.)

## EXTENDED RESPONSE OPERATIONS

The University's extended response activities are conducted in the field and in the University's EOC. Extended response activities involve the coordination and management of personnel and resources to mitigate a threat, hazard, or emergency, and facilitate the transition to Recovery Operations. Field response personnel will use ICS to manage field operations. EOC staff will support field response personnel in mitigating the affects of the threat, hazard, or emergency.

### NIMS Functions

- The components and principles of NIMS will be used by EOC staff to manage the threat, hazard, or emergency;
- EOC staff will establish measurable and attainable objectives to be achieved for a given operational period;
- An EOC Action Plan will be developed for each operational period;
- When the EOC is activated, communications and coordination will be established between the Incident Commander and the EOC; and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multi-agency or inter-agency coordination will be used by EOC staff to facilitate decisions for overall local government level emergency response activities.</li> </ul>
<b>Mutual Aid</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A “Mutual Aid System” is a system which allows for the progressive mobilization of resources to/from allied emergency response agencies, local governments, operational areas, regions, and the State, with the intent of providing adequate resources to requesting agencies;</li> <li>• Within the framework of the State of Maryland Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement, several discipline-specific mutual aid coordinators will operate from the UMCP operational area EOC, such as fire and rescue, law enforcement, medical, and public works. Mutual aid requests for these disciplines will be coordinated through the coordinators;</li> <li>• Once the UMCP EOC is activated, communications will be established between the EOC and these discipline-specific operational area mutual aid coordinators. All other requests for assistance will flow through the appropriate operational area NIMS function; and</li> <li>• The jurisdiction(s) requesting mutual aid will remain in charge and retain overall direction of personnel and equipment provided through mutual aid.</li> </ul>
<b>Examples of Extended Response Operations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparing detailed damage assessments;</li> <li>• Operating mass casualty facilities;</li> <li>• Conducting coroner operations;</li> <li>• Procuring required resources to sustain operations;</li> <li>• Documenting situation status;</li> <li>• Protecting, controlling, and allocating vital resources;</li> <li>• Restoring vital utility services;</li> <li>• Tracking resource allocation;</li> <li>• Conducting advance planning activities;</li> <li>• Documenting expenditures;</li> <li>• Developing and implementing Action Plans for Extended Response Operations;</li> <li>• Disseminating emergency public information;</li> <li>• Declaring a local emergency;</li> <li>• Prioritizing resource allocation; and</li> <li>• Inter/multi-agency coordination.</li> </ul>

## RECOVERY OPERATIONS

As the immediate threat, hazard, or emergency subsides, the rebuilding of the University will begin through various recovery activities. Recovery activities involve the restoration of services to the public and rebuilding the affected area(s.) Recovery activities may be both short-term and long-term, ranging from restoration of essential utilities such as water and power, to mitigation measures designed to prevent future occurrences of a given threat, hazard, or emergency facing the University.

The UMEOP does not specifically identify UMCP Recovery Operations. However, the *Recovery Operations Manual* covers the recovery process in detail, describing roles, responsibilities, and the procedures for accessing the federal and State disaster assistance programs that are available to individuals and the University. The University's Recovery Operations will be coordinated by the Incident Response Team (IRT.)

### Examples of Recovery Activities

- Restoring all utilities;
- Establishing and staffing Local Assistance Centers and Disaster Assistance Centers;
- Applying for State and federal assistance programs;
- Conducting hazard mitigation analyses;
- Identifying residual hazards; and
- Determining and recovering costs associated with response and recovery.