I. Emergency Management Plan Overview

A. Introduction

A college campus is a community of a significant number of people who come together from many backgrounds and environments to live, work and attend school. In a large campus community like at Texas State University, emergencies or critical incidents will occur. The occurrence of an emergency-producing incident can have both direct and indirect traumatizing effects on a wide range of the community members. While Texas State cannot create a foolproof plan to deal with every contingency, a basic plan for institutional response to emergency situations can:

1. increase the effectiveness and immediacy of the response to any victims;
2. reduce the severity and duration of the trauma to the campus community; and
3. reassure the public, local and university community.

B. Definition of Emergency Incidents

Texas State defines emergency incidents as the following situations that may require a coordinated response:

1. Death of a student (on or off campus)
2. Attempted suicide
3. Life threatening injury or illness
4. Sexual assault
5. Mental health emergency
6. Drug or alcohol overdose
7. Campus disturbance or riot
8. Contacting students in case of family emergency
9. Fire or explosion with injuries or significant damage
10. Bomb threats
11. Violent crimes (on campus or in the campus community)
12. Health hazard or emergency
13. Power outages or physical plant failure
14. Facilities structural damage or danger
15. Natural disasters
16. An emergency situation involving a Texas State student with the Study Abroad Program
17. Student organization hazing with injuries or fatalities to student
18. Active shooter on campus

C. Emergency Response Groups

In order to provide an effective and planned response to campus emergency situations, Texas State has established two response groups: the Emergency Management Committee (EMC) and the Behavior Assessment Team (BAT) to assess the situation and coordinate the university’s response to a critical incident.

II. Link to Disaster Operations
A. Disaster Emergency Operations Procedures

Some emergency incidents result from disaster situations that risk the safety of Texas State students, faculty and staff for an extended period and impair the university’s immediate function because of damaged or unsafe facilities. For these situations, UPPS No. 05.04.03, Emergency Operations, specifies specific policy and procedures to be followed during the disaster period. Attachment I of this policy concerns procedures to ensure the ongoing safety of the Texas State community and actions necessary to restore safety and function to the disaster area. This Emergency Management Plan’s focus is to provide support and assistance to Texas State community members severely affected by the incident.

B. Emergency Management Committee

UPPS No. 05.04.03 establishes the Emergency Management Committee (EMC) to oversee the university’s response to the emergency situation. The policy specifies the membership of the committee and the appointment and responsibilities of the director of Emergency Operations. When circumstances warrant gathering information for a potential emergency, the president will convene a meeting of appropriate committee members to assess the situation, identify damaged facilities and hazardous sites, and recommend specific emergency actions to restore university safety and function.

III. Behavior Assessment Team (BAT) Function

The BAT, operating under UPPS No. 07.10.05, advises university administration, faculty and staff regarding student behavior considered potentially dangerous to self or others or extremely disruptive or threatening.