



KEYS TO SAFER SCHOOLS.COM[©]

Detection & Prevention of School Violence




Chemicals are a part of our everyday lives. They help fuel our cars, keep our surroundings clean, and help keep our food fresh. Chemical and other hazardous emergencies can occur nearly anywhere hazardous items are used, stored, or transported from one place to another. The best way to protect our students when an accident happens is to be prepared! Everyone should know what to do in a Bio-chemical emergency.

What to do in a Bio-Chemical Emergency

- Rely on and follow the instructions of your local police, fire officials and/or school officials. Listen to your two-way radios or other types of communication for instructions.
- Stay off or limit your telephone usage. Emergency officials will need clear telephone lines to pass on instructions.
- **“Shelter-in-Place”** means to make a location your pre-designed shelter site. Once indoors, seal yourself in and do not leave until you are told it is safe to go out. Stay in that shelter until the “all clear” is given.
- If you are instructed to evacuate, stay calm and follow the instructions of the police, fire officials or your school Crisis Plan. *To learn more* → [click here](#)

Shelter-In-Place Kit

It is important to take time to prepare your S.I.P. Kit in advance. Pre-cut and label plastic sheeting for the windows and vents of your pre-selected room and collect the following items:

- Duct tape to seal the plastic sheeting
-  A flashlight with extra batteries
- Magazines, books, and activities to keep students occupied.
-  A battery-powered radio with spare batteries or crank types.
- A few non-perishable food items -snack bars, candy, etc.
-  Provide enough bottle water to sustain students & staff for 48 hours.
- A first-aid kit and more... [click here](#)



A shelter-in-place emergency will probably last only a few hours at most, but may last longer. Red Cross recommends supplies for 48 to 72 hours. Also, be sure to have the nurse take all medicines for students to your pre-selected shelter room.

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Shelter-In-Place Procedures

[Bio-Chemical Contingence Training available](#)

Follow these five major steps when instructed to shelter-in-place:

- 1 Move students and staff indoors immediately.
- 2 Close and lock all windows and doors. (*provide a tighter seal*)
- 3 Turn off all heating, cooling, and ventilation devices including window and attic fans and anything that moves air in and out of the room.
- 4 Move everyone into the pre-selected room in the school. Use duct tape and pre-cut heavy plastic to cover doors and windows to seal the room tightly.
- 5 Turn on two-way radios, local radio and/or television to the local Emergency Alert System and wait for further instructions. At times the instructions may be to evacuate, so be prepared to follow. Stay in room until you have been told that the danger has passed or to evacuate. After the emergency is over, open all doors and windows to properly ventilate the facility, unless contaminate is present.

To learn more → [click here](#)

Note to Parents: What about Children at this School?

Notify parents in advance of an emergency with this information through Student Handbook or other forms of communication. *“Although it is natural to wish to pick up your children from school in a Bio-Chemical emergency, attempting to do so could just make matters worse. You and your children could be exposed to hazards while traveling to and from school.”*

Children will be taken inside the school building during a bio-chemical emergency and remain inside until the danger has passed or instructed to evacuate. If instructed to evacuate, parent will be given that information. The best action to take is to follow the instructions of your local police or fire officials, and if directed, stay where you are and shelter-in-place.”

Shelter-In-Place Works!

Sheltering-in-place is easy and quick. In a matter of moments, your school can be safe inside their schools pre-selected room should a bio-chemical emergency occur in your community. Sheltering-in-place limits the chances of being exposed to the airborne chemical and other hazards.

Sheltering-in-place has been used effectively by individuals and school across the county and overseas. Sheltering-in-place protects individuals from bio-chemicals emergencies.

Pre-select a room in your school with few doors and windows for your students and staff to shelter-in-place, and prepare your [Shelter-In-Place Kit](#).

Local police, fire officials or school officials may direct you to shelter-in-place when:

- The hazard is of short duration.
- The bio-chemical or other hazard released has a low health hazard and its release isn't serious enough for evacuation.
- The danger could quickly overtake you if you are outside.
- There is not enough time to evacuate your school.

In a bio-chemical or other emergency, follow the instructions of your local police, fire officials and school officials.



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