

The Valley College of Osteopathic Medicine

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Policy Number: COM-4.2

Effective Date: March 1, 2025

Revisions and Dates:

Responsible Party: Office of the Dean

Approved by: Alissa Craft, DO, MBA

Policy & Procedure Statement

The Valley COM considers the health and safety of its students, faculty, staff and administration of paramount importance and is aware that a threat or incident that puts the campus community at risk can emerge at any time. It is therefore imperative that The Valley COM adopts a system of emergency/disaster preparedness and response that is flexible and adaptable to any threat or circumstance to preserve and protect life and property. The plan shall be designed to provide an all-hazard response to emergency/disaster situations to include but not be limited to weather emergencies, fire, bomb threat, active shooter or other acts/threats of violence, chemical spill or other environmental hazard, infectious disease threat, suspicious package or mail, emerging infectious disease/epidemics/pandemics, etc. This plan will also be reviewed with local response agencies to assure it is up to date and relevant to potential threats for the region and the college community.

Procedure

1. The Office of the Dean/Dean designee shall work with local response agencies and all pertinent college departments to develop a response plan for an all-hazard approach to emergency/disaster mitigation and response.
2. The Office of the Dean/Dean designee shall review and update the plan on an annual basis with all pertinent and relevant departments and agencies to assure it is relevant to current response practices and threat analysis.
3. All members of the campus community will be trained on general college emergency/disaster response plans to include communication protocols at initial entry to the college and on an annual basis.
4. High priority aspects of the plan such as evacuation protocols, shelter in place, communication protocols, etc. shall be tested routinely to assure the college is prepared to respond to any evolving emergency situation.