Institution of Higher Education (IHE) Site Assessment Resources

The following resources may be used by your site assessment team and/or IHE planning team to improve the safety and security of your IHE in the short term and long term.

Education Facilities in General

SITE ASSESS, REMS TA Center (2018)

This secure mobile application allows IHE personnel to walk around campus buildings and grounds and examine their safety, security, accessibility, and emergency preparedness. It is compatible with iOS and Android operating systems. Users may upload images directly into SITE ASSESS, export data into Word or Excel for recordkeeping and data aggregation/analysis, learn about Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) and universal design/accessibility, and collect information that will aid IHE personnel with fulfilling *Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act* requirements. https://rems.ed.gov/SITEASSESS.aspx

Education Facilities Clearinghouse, U.S. Department of Education (n.d.)

This clearinghouse provides a Website of best practices and offers technical assistance and training to school divisions on a range of facility topics—including planning for natural hazards; biological hazards; and adversarial, incidental, and human-caused threats. https://www.efc.gwu.edu/

National Center for Campus Public Safety, Bureau of Justice Assistance (n.d.)

This clearinghouse offers resources, including a Webinar series, on creating safer and stronger campus communities, with a focus on planning for human-caused threats. https://www.nccpsafety.org/

Center for Universal Design, North Carolina State University (n.d.)

This clearinghouse offers publications and programs that evaluate, develop, and promote universal design in facilities. https://www.ncsu.edu/ncsu/design/cud/

The Model Aquatic Health Code: An All-Inclusive Model Public Swimming Pool and Spa Code, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2018)

This guidance may be used by schools with pools to create or update existing pool codes to reduce risk for infectious disease outbreaks, drowning, and pool-chemical injuries and make

swimming and other water activities healthier and safer.
https://www.cdc.gov/mahc/index.html

How Schools and Higher Ed Institutions Can Access FEMA's Public Assistance Program, REMS TA Center (2017)

This Webinar shares information on grant funding that education agencies can use to clean up their facilities that have been damaged during a presidentially declared major disaster.
https://rems.ed.gov/SchoolsandHigherEdInstitutionsWebinars.aspx

Building Codes Toolkit, Federal Emergency Management Agency (2017)

This Web page contains guidance and tools on building codes for engineers, design professionals, and the general public that are based on local best practices; input from local, regional, and Federal subject matter experts; industry partners; and existing FEMA standards and guidance. https://www.fema.gov/building-codes-toolkit

Evaluation of Indoor Environmental Quality in a College Teaching and Administrative Building, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2015)

This report provides findings from a study of an IHE building regarding poor indoor environmental quality. This study included a walk-through where evaluators looked for past and current water damage, water entering the building, and mold; an examination of the ventilation system drawings and maintenance records; and a review of symptoms of employees and students. Recommendations for the IHE and its employees were documented.
https://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/28048

IS-156: Building Design for Homeland Security for Continuity of Operations, Emergency Management Institute (2014)

This online course provides guidance on and tools for assessing the vulnerabilities and performance of buildings against terrorist threats and technological accidents. Furthermore, participants are equipped with the ability to identify and prioritize applicable mitigation measures and understand how vulnerabilities impact selection of that site as a continuity-of-operations facility. https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-156

Local Mitigation Planning Handbook, Federal Emergency Management Agency (2013)

This publication provides information on hazard mitigation, including developing a mitigation strategy and mitigation action plan. https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1910-25045-9160/fema_local_mitigation_handbook.pdf

Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter Fact Sheet, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (2010)

This publication contains information on ground fault circuit interrupters, an inexpensive electrical device that reduces electrical shocks, and how to install and test them. https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-public/099_0.pdf

Effective Emergency Management: Making Improvements for Communities and People with Disabilities, National Council on Disability (2009)

In this report, the National Council on Disability describes evidence-based policies, programs, and practices that assist people with disabilities. Considerations are given to specific hazards that may have implications for people with specific disabilities. The document describes specific considerations for planning during the phases of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery (which are now categorized into the five preparedness mission areas of prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery). https://www.ncd.gov/rawmedia_repository/50b76caf_054c_491d_ae88_587c096d8b3a.pdf

Guide to Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards, U.S. Access Board (2004)

This publication explains the requirements of the ADA standards; it was developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Justice and U.S. Department of Transportation. https://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/buildings-and-sites/about-the-ada-standards/guide-to-the-ada-standards

Guide to Architectural Barriers Act Standards, U.S. Access Board (2004)

This guide contains standards to apply to facilities designed, built, altered, or leased with Federal funds as well as technical specifications for building elements specifically designed for use by children 12 and younger. https://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/buildings-and-sites/about-the-aba-standards/guide-to-the-aba-standards

Guidelines for Retrofitting Bleachers, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (2000)

This guide provides information on retrofitting bleachers used for sporting events, graduations, and other large events, in order to eliminate features that present a fall hazard. https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-public/330.pdf

Guidelines for Movable Soccer Goals, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (1995)

This Web page provides information on installing, using, and storing full-size or nearly full-size movable soccer goals, in order to help prevent deaths and serious injuries resulting from soccer goal tip-overs. https://www.cpsc.gov/safety-education/safety-guides/sports-fitness-and-recreation/guidelines-movable-soccer-goals/

READINESS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FOR SCHOOLS

REMS
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

If you have questions or need additional assistance, please contact the REMS TA Center at (855) 781-REMS (7367) or info@remstacenter.org.

@remstacenter   https://rems.ed.gov

Evacuation Plans and Procedure eTool: Emergency Standards, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (n.d.)

This Website provides recommendations for exit routes within buildings. Schools may use this resource to inform the design, construction, maintenance, and operation of exit routes within school buildings and on school grounds, as well as the development of evacuation annexes. https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/evacuation/evaluate.html

Universal Design, Office of Disability Employment Policy (n.d.)

This Web page provides information on universal design, as well as resources on the topic. https://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/UniversalDesign.htm

Mitigation of and Protection From Natural Hazards in Education Facilities

Catalog of FEMA Building Science Branch: Publications and Training Courses, Federal Emergency Management Agency (2016)

This publication contains publications, training courses, and workshops that are available regarding natural hazards, including earthquakes, floods, high winds, snow, and wildfires. Examples include identifying the best available refuge areas in existing buildings for protection from tornados and recommendations for mitigating wildfires during the rebuilding of public facilities. https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1476460097383-a315a523cd7a30a1c737b7dd6388400d/FEMA_P787_2016-508.pdf

Safe Rooms for Tornadoes and Hurricanes: Guidance for Community and Residential Safe Rooms, Federal Emergency Management Agency (2015)

This publication provides recommendations for the design and construction of safe rooms utilized during natural hazards, specifically tornadoes and hurricanes. https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1467990808182-0272256cba8a35a4e8c35eeff53dd547/fema_p361_July2016_508.pdf

Mitigation Ideas: A Resource for Reducing Risk to Natural Hazards, Federal Emergency Management Agency (2013)

This publication offers information on ways to reduce risk to a multitude of natural hazards such as drought, earthquake, erosion, extreme temperatures, flood, hail, landslide, lightning, sea level rise, severe wind, severe winter weather, storm surge, subsidence, tornado, tsunami, and wildfire. https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1904-25045-0186/fema_mitigation_ideas_final508.pdf

Snow Load Safety Guide, Federal Emergency Management Agency (2013)

This publication provides building stakeholders with information on the risks a snow event poses to their buildings; preventative measures to take before the snow season; and actions that can be taken before, during, and after a snow event. https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/7d8c55d1c4f815edf3d7e7d1c120383f/FEMA957_Snowload_508.pdf

Critical Facilities Located in Tornado-Prone Regions: Recommendations for Facility Owners, Federal Emergency Management Agency (2011)

This document informs critical facility owners, which include IHEs, of enhancements that can be made to both existing facilities and those to be developed in order to protect building occupants from and mitigate tornado damage. https://rems.ed.gov/docs/Critical_Facilities_TornadoProneAreas.pdf

Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Handbook for Public Facilities, Federal Emergency Management Agency (2008)

This publication provides recommendations for mitigating wildfires during the rebuilding of public facilities. The school, higher ed, and design communities may use this resource to inform the design, construction, and rehabilitation of education facilities. https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1715-25045-2934/fema_p_754.pdf

Design Guide for Improving Critical Facility Safety From Flooding and High Winds, Federal Emergency Management Agency (2007)

This guide offers recommendations for the protection of people and buildings from natural hazards, specifically floods and high winds, and mitigation best practices. Its intended audience is planning, building design, and construction professionals as well as technical and management personnel involved with the operation of critical facilities, which include IHEs. https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1557-20490-1542/fema543_complete.pdf

Designing for Earthquakes: A Manual for Architects, Federal Emergency Management Agency (2006)

This document explains the principles of seismic design to practicing architects who do not have a technical background in engineering and seismology. https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1556-20490-5679/fema454_complete.pdf

Prevention of and Recovery From Technological Hazards in Education Facilities

Regulations for Hazardous Waste Generated at Academic Laboratories, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2018)

This Web page describes standards for managing hazardous waste in and improving the environmental performance of teaching and research laboratories at IHEs. https://www.epa.gov/hwgenerators/regulations-hazardous-waste-generated-academic-laboratories

Lead Hotline—The National Lead Information Center, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (n.d.)

This hotline offers information about lead, lead hazards, and their prevention, Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Eastern Time, at 1-800-424-LEAD [5323]. https://www.epa.gov/lead/forms/lead-hotline-national-lead-information-center

Safe Drinking Water Hotline, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (n.d.)

This hotline offers information about a range of drinking water-related topics, including public drinking water systems, Monday through Friday between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Eastern Time, at 1-800-426-4791. https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/safe-drinking-water-hotline

Green Strides, U.S. Department of Education (2016)

This Website provides resources on innovative practices for making school facilities healthier, safer, and more sustainable. The resources include a Webinar series that provides school communities the tools to reduce their schools' environmental impact and costs, improve health and wellness, and teach effective environmental education. https://www2.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/green-strides/index.html

Mold Remediation in Schools and Commercial Buildings, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2008)

This publication provides recommendations on preventing, investigating, evaluating, and remediating moisture and mold problems in school buildings. https://rems.ed.gov/docs/Mobile_docs/EPA_Mold-Remediation-Schools.pdf

READINESS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FOR SCHOOLS REMS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

Mitigation and Prevention of Biological Hazards in Education Facilities

Legionella: **Prevention With Water Management Programs (2018)**

This Website contains information and a toolkit for building owners and managers to maintain building water systems in order to reduce the risk of *Legionella* growth and spread. https://www.cdc.gov/legionella/wmp/index.html

Environmental Cleaning & Disinfecting for Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2016)

This Web page contains information on which disinfectants to use against MRSA, laundry, facility cleaning after a MRSA incident, and specific areas to consider such as surfaces, shared equipment, keyboards, and athletic facilities. https://www.cdc.gov/mrsa/community/environment/index.html

Prevention of and Protection From Adversarial, Incidental, and Human-Caused Threats in Education Facilities

Unmanned Aircraft Systems on Campus, National Center for Campus Public Safety (2019)

This Webinar cover unmanned aircraft system (UAS) topics, including how to build a UAS program on campus and how UAS can be used in emergency response, public safety efforts, and campus infrastructure inspection. https://www.nccpsafety.org/training-technical-assistance/webinars/unmanned-aircraft-systems-on-campus

Cybersecurity Considerations for Institutions of Higher Education, REMS TA Center (2017)

This fact sheet provides details regarding the types of cyber threats to an IHE's information technology network and system, including unsecure personal devices and malware/scareware. It describes what IHEs can do to protect systems and networks before, during, and after a cyber incident, including creating firewalls, monitoring networks, and developing and promoting policies. https://rems.ed.gov/docs/Cybersecurity_Considerations_for_Higher_ed_Fact_Sheet_508C.pdf

Designing Safety on Higher Ed Campuses: A CPTED Primer, National Center for Campus Public Safety (2017)

This Webinar explores simple strategies and examples to make IHE campuses safer and more secure using CPTED while considering the budget. The intended audience includes campus public safety officials, facilities and physical plant staff, student affairs personnel, builders, architects, project managers, codes personnel, and administrators. https://www.nccpsafety.org/training-technical-assistance/webinars/designing-safety-on-higher-ed-campuses-a-cpted-primer/

Reimagining the Role of Technology in Higher Education, Office of Educational Technology (2017)

This publication contains technology infrastructure information in the context of increased technology use in the education field. This information includes considerations for ubiquitous access to connectivity and devices, responsible use policies, and protections for student privacy. https://tech.ed.gov/files/2017/01/Higher-Ed-NETP.pdf

Baldrige Cybersecurity Excellence Builder: Key Questions for Improving Your Organization's Cybersecurity Performance, National Institute of Standards and Technology (2016)

This self-assessment tool may be used by organizations to better understand the effectiveness of their cybersecurity risk management efforts. https://www.nist.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2016/09/15/baldrige-cybersecurity-excellence-builder-draft-09.2016.pdf

Campus Fire Fatalities in Residential Buildings (2000–2015), U.S. Fire Administration (2015)

This research report presents findings from a study that examined data from fatal campus fires in order to reveal factors that lead to the unnecessary fire deaths of college students. These data include the type of housing (dormitories, fraternities, sororities, and off-campus housing), condition of smoke alarms, and the presence of fire sprinklers. https://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/campus_fire_fatalities_report.pdf

Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity, National Institute of Standards and Technology (2014)

This publication provides a set of cybersecurity activities, outcomes, and informative references; detailed guidance for developing individual organizational profiles; and help in aligning an organization's cybersecurity activities with its resources and risk tolerances. Additionally, it provides a methodology to protect individual privacy and civil liberties, while conducting cybersecurity activities. https://www.nist.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cyberframework/cybersecurity-framework-021214.pdf

Primer to Design Safe School Projects in Case of Terrorist Attacks and School Shootings, Federal Emergency Management Agency (2012)

This guide provides recommendations for designing education facilities for adversarial, incidental, and human-caused threats. School administrators and the design community may use this resource to enhance school safety through the design, construction, or rehabilitation of school buildings and grounds. https://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/st/bips07_428_schools.pdf

CPTED Guidebook, National Crime Prevention Council (2003)

This guide provides information on CPTED and is intended for developers, architects, and planners to incorporate its principles in buildings.
https://rems.ed.gov/docs/Mobile_docs/CPTED-Guidebook.pdf