

SAFETY MATTERS

RISK MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

OCT. 9, 2026

- What is the Great ShakeOut?
- Are You Ready to ShakeOut?
- Resources

GET READY FOR THE GREAT SHAKEOUT 2026!

OBJECTIVE To highlight the California Great ShakeOut and its role in helping schools practice earthquake preparedness and safety.

The International ShakeOut Day (every third Thursday of October) is a day of individual and community events featuring the largest earthquake drill ever. The annual earthquake preparedness drill encourages schools, organizations, workplaces, and communities to practice "Drop, Cover, and Hold On." It is also organized to inspire others to get ready for big earthquakes, and to prevent disasters from becoming catastrophes. What we do to prepare now, before the next big earthquake, will determine how well we can survive and recover. Students, teachers, and staff are encouraged to participate in the Great ShakeOut drill, whether you are on campus, at work, at home, or in a public space.

At 10:15 a.m., on October 15, 2026, millions of people will participate in the largest earthquake drill ever: ShakeOut! Why? Earthquakes can happen anywhere you work, live, or travel, which is why everyone, everywhere, should know how to protect themselves if an earthquake occurs.

ShakeOut.

Don't Freak Out.

October 15, 2026

Register: **ShakeOut.org**

Shake
Out™





ARE YOU READY TO SHAKEOUT?

With over 343 million people living and working in the United States, a major earthquake could cause unprecedented devastation. What we do now, before a big earthquake, will determine how well we survive and recover.

Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drills in October 2025 involved more than 50 million worldwide participants through broad-based outreach programs, media partnerships, and public advocacy by hundreds of partners.

A key aspect of the ShakeOut is integrating comprehensive science-based earthquake research and the lessons learned from decades of social science research about why people get prepared. The result is a “teachable moment” on par with having an actual earthquake (often followed by increased interest in getting ready for earthquakes). ShakeOut creates the sense of urgency needed for people, schools, and communities to get prepared, practice safe emergency procedures, and learn what plans need improvement.

Not just any drill will accomplish this; it needs to be significant. It must inspire communities to come together. It must involve children, teachers, and school administrators, prompting conversations at home. It must allow every organization, school, city, etc., to make it their own event. We are all in this together.

For school drill models and templates, please visit shakeout.org/schools. Take three easy steps: “Drop, Cover, and Hold On” on October 15. It is only a one-minute commitment for something that can save our lives.

RESOURCES:

SHAKEOUT shakeout.org

This California Schools JPA Safety Matters is not intended to be exhaustive. The discussion and best practices suggested herein should not be regarded as legal advice. Readers should pursue legal counsel or contact their insurance providers to gain more exhaustive advice.





SIGN-IN SHEET

GET READY FOR THE GREAT SHAKEOUT 2026!

Facilitator: _____ Facilitator's Signature: _____

Date: _____ Organization: _____ Department: _____

Participants:

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