



Earthquake: Preparedness for Specific Disabilities

People with Developmental/Cognitive/Intellectual Disabilities

- Have a written or visual checklist with short, easy steps
- Include communication tools in your kit that you know how to use
 - ⇒ people who are nonverbal can include pictures, written phrases, or Kwik Points for easier communication
- Store extra batteries for portable communication devices
- Practice Drop, Cover, and Hold On and your plan
 - ⇒ regular practice will help you to remember what to do and to remain calmer when a disaster occurs
- Practice telling care assistants and responders how to communicate with you, such as using simple, short, and clear language for instructions

People who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

- Have more than one method to receive warnings and evacuation information
- Store extra batteries in your disaster kits for hearing or communication devices
- Keep pen and paper in your kits for receiving and communicating information
- Prior to an earthquake, identify and test multiple ways to receive warnings and evacuation information

People who are Blind or Visually Impaired

- Earthquakes can cause items to fall and furniture to shift making navigating the room more difficult
- Sound clues may not be available.
- While evacuating move slowly and check for obstacles in the way
- Shuffling your feet when there is a lot of debris on the ground will reduce your likelihood of falling
- Store extra canes, batteries and supplies for your communication devices
- Label emergency supplies using large print, fluorescent tape, Braille, or other preferred methods

Service Animals

- Keep license and ID tags on service animals at all times
- Keep copies of any service animal certification or documentation including immunization records, medications, and veterinarian's contact information in your service animal's disaster kit
- Have your animal chipped and include photos of you with your animal to assist with reuniting if you are separated
- Store extra animal food, water, and feeding bowls
- Keep an extra harness and/or leash with your disaster supplies
- Purchase and practice using booties to protect paws