

Hazard Mitigation Plan

The University of Kentucky is currently updating its Hazard Mitigation Plan which will identify natural and human-caused hazards that may impact people, buildings, infrastructure, and research at the University and identify a set of actions that will reduce the likelihood those hazards will impact the University. Actions may include education programs, policy changes, emergency equipment, and structural projects. The Hazard Mitigation Plan will be developed through the completion of four planning phases:

- 1. Planning Process** - The process guides how the plan is developed and who is involved. A steering committee implements the planning process with participation from stakeholders that have relevant information, and includes students, faculty, and staff.
- 2. Risk Assessment** - Identify the characteristics and potential consequences of hazards. This includes understanding where the hazard may occur and what people, property or community assets may be in harm's way.
- 3. Mitigation Strategy** - The mitigation strategy sets priorities and develops long-term strategies for avoiding or minimizing the undesired effects of disasters. The strategy and mitigation actions are informed by the planning process, the risk assessment and the University's capability to implement the strategy.
- 4. Plan Maintenance** - The method and process for monitoring, evaluating, and updating the plan.



Example of a building level risk assessment depicting flood risk



Hazards addressed in UK's plan

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Dam failure | Landslide |
| Drought | Severe storm |
| Earthquake | Severe winter storm |
| Extreme temperature | Tornado |
| Flood | Hazardous materials |
| Forest fire | Emerging infectious diseases |
| Hailstorm | Cybersecurity |
| Karst/sinkhole | |



Benefits of mitigation planning

- Identifying actions for risk reduction that are agreed upon by stakeholders and the university community.
- Focusing resources on the greatest risks and vulnerabilities.
- Building partnerships by involving students, faculty and staff.
- Increasing education and awareness of threats and hazards, as well as their risks.
- Communicating priorities to State and Federal officials.
- Aligning risk reduction with other university objectives.
- Maintaining eligibility for FEMA hazard mitigation grants.