

Brewton-Parker Christian University

Emergency Response Guide

The safety of the Brewton-Parker Christian University community depends upon students and employees knowing how to receive emergency information, report dangerous situations, and respond appropriately when an emergency occurs. This guide provides general emergency instructions for students, faculty, and staff. Additional directions may be provided through BPCU emergency notifications or by University officials and emergency responders.

Emergency Contacts

For an emergency requiring immediate police, fire, or emergency medical assistance, **call 911 first.**

Campus Safety & Security: 912-253-9280

Director of Safety & Security: 912-551-3434

When reporting an emergency, provide your name, your location, the nature of the emergency, individuals involved or injured, and any other information requested by the dispatcher or University official.

When to Call 911 vs. Campus Safety & Security

CALL 911 FIRST	CALL CAMPUS SAFETY & SECURITY
Immediate threat to life or safety, crime in progress, violence or a weapon, fire or explosion, serious medical emergency, or another situation requiring immediate police, fire, or EMS response.	Non-emergency suspicious activity, theft discovered after the fact, safety or security concerns, requests for an escort or assistance, or other situations that do not require immediate police, fire, or EMS response.

After calling 911, notify Campus Safety & Security as soon as it is safe to do so so University personnel can initiate campus procedures and assist emergency responders. If you are unsure whether a situation is an emergency, call 911.

Special case: Bomb threats and suspicious packages may require different communication precautions. Follow the specific instructions in that section of this guide.

OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Mount Vernon Police Department: 912-583-2323 or 912-583-2321

Mount Vernon Fire Department: 912-583-2323

Poison Control Center: 1-800-222-1222 (THROUGHOUT GA)

WINGS Crisis Line (Abused women and children): 478-272-8000

Refuge Domestic Violence Shelter: 912-538-9935

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Hotline: 800-729-6686

Youth Crisis Text Line: text 'GA' to 741-741

National Youth Crisis Hotline: 800-422-4673 (HOPE)

National US Child Abuse Hotline: 800-422-4453

National Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-656-4673

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 800-799-7233/800-942-6908 (Español)

National Institute on Drug Abuse Hotline: 800-662-4357

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 800-273-8255/888-628-9494 (Español)

National Disaster Distress Helpline: 1-800-985-5990/ text 'TalkWithUs' to 66746

Crisis/Mental Health Counselor

Brewton-Parker Counseling Center

Dusty Arnold

Mental Health Counselor

Miller Building

mdarnold@bpc.edu

Tony Wardlaw

Mental Health Counselor

Holliman Fountain Building

cwardlaw@bpc.edu

Thaddeus Holloway

Mental Health Counselor

Miller Building

tmholloway@bpc.edu

Mental Health Providers and their distance from Brewton Parker Christian University

Pineland Behavioral Health-**10 Miles from BPCU**

901 North Street West

Vidalia, Georgia

Memorial Health Meadows Hospital-**12 Miles from BPCU**

One Meadows Parkway

Vidalia, Georgia 30474

CSB of Middle Georgia- **35 Miles from BPCU**

110 Russell Drive

Dublin, Georgia 31021

Georgia Regional Hospital-**104 Miles from BPCU**

1915 Eisenhower Drive

Savannah, Georgia 31406

Information needed for Calls to Security/Student Services Office

To facilitate reports, please have the following information when calling Security 912-253-9280 or the Director of Safety and Security 912-551-3434:

- Name of person calling
- Description of incident
- Names of people involved
- What action has been taken thus far
- Other pertinent information

Safe Environment Plan

At Brewton-Parker Christian University, the safety of our students and staff is of the greatest importance. Every effort is made to provide a safe and secure learning environment on our campus. It is our belief that staff performance and student achievement are enhanced in a school in which everyone feels safe and secure.

- Campus Safety Zone - As a means of ensuring the safety of the students and staff, a safety zone including the area in, on, or within 1,000 feet of the campus has been established. "Drug-Free Zone" and "No Weapons" signs are posted on campus grounds and within the buildings.
- Campus Visitors – Brewton-Parker administration and staff considers our parents as one of our greatest assets. While we encourage all parents to be active participants in the education of their children, we take several measures to ensure that our open-door policy does not jeopardize the safety of our students. Students should notify Student Services when a parent or guest will be on campus other than their attendance at a school sanctioned event.
- Individuals with Disabilities or Other Assistance Needs
 - During times of school evacuation, all individuals with disabilities or other assistance needs will be escorted to the library if time permits. Faculty members will be responsible for relocating the students to the relocation sites. If the need arises for immediate evacuation, individuals will be moved outside the building to a designated location. Evacuation protocol will be developed for specific emergencies.
 - Administrator's designee will be responsible for transporting emergency medication kits for students to the library.
- Additional Safety Features
 - Brewton-Parker Christian University has a fully staffed nighttime Safety Officer. The Security office is located in the Newton Building. At night the Safety Officer is posted at the night time security office in the Phillips Student Center. The Safety Officer can be reached at (912) 253-9280. The Director of Safety and Security can be reached at (912) 551-3434.
 - At least one Resident Assistant per Dorm and all coaches are CPR/First Aid/AED certified.
 - Brewton-Parker Christian University also has a Campus Alert System via SMS text messaging and BPCU email.
 - Brewton-Parker Christian University has a Tornado Alert Siren on Campus.

Emergency Notifications

BPCU may communicate emergency information through:

- Omnilert emergency text messages
- BPCU email
- Fire or other audible alarms
- Severe weather/tornado sirens
- Direct instructions from University personnel or emergency responders

Students and employees should read emergency messages immediately and follow the instructions provided. Because circumstances may change quickly, additional or revised instructions may be issued during an emergency.

Do not rely on social media or unofficial information during an emergency. Follow official BPCU communications and instructions from public safety officials.

Evacuation

When directed to evacuate:

- Leave the building or affected area promptly.
- Use the nearest safe exit unless instructed otherwise.
- Do not use elevators during a fire or when otherwise directed not to do so.
- Assist others when it is safe and appropriate to do so.
- Move away from the affected building or area and remain clear of emergency-response routes.
- Follow directions from University officials or emergency responders regarding where to assemble.
- Do not re-enter an evacuated building or area until an official all-clear has been given.
- Faculty and designated University personnel should follow their assigned accountability procedures.

Lockdown and Active Threat

If BPCU announces a lockdown, immediately follow the instructions in the emergency notification or those provided by law enforcement or University officials.

During an immediate violent threat, use the Run, Hide, Fight principles as circumstances allow:

- Run: If a safe escape route is available, move away from the threat and leave the area.
- Hide: If escape is not safe, secure yourself in a protected location, remain out of sight, silence electronic devices, and remain quiet.
- Fight: If you cannot run or hide and your life is in immediate danger, defend yourself as a last resort.

Call 911 when it is safe to do so. Then notify Campus Safety & Security as soon as it is safe and practical. Do not leave a secure location merely because the area appears quiet. Wait for an official all-clear or instructions from law enforcement.

Fire

If you discover a fire or hear a fire alarm:

- Activate the fire alarm if it has not already sounded.
- Evacuate immediately using the nearest safe exit.
- From a safe location, call 911.
- Notify Campus Safety & Security as soon as it is safe to do so.
- Do not use an elevator.
- Close doors behind you when possible.
- Do not attempt to retrieve personal belongings.
- Do not re-enter the building until an official all-clear is issued.
- Follow the posted evacuation route and directions from University officials or emergency responders.

Only individuals who are properly trained should attempt to use a fire extinguisher, and only when the fire is small and a safe exit remains available.

Tornado and Severe Weather

BPCU communicates severe-weather emergencies through the campus alert system and, when applicable, the campus tornado siren.

During a tornado warning or when directed to take shelter:

- Go immediately to the designated severe-weather shelter area for your building or follow instructions provided in the emergency notification.
- Stay away from windows and exterior doors.
- Move to an interior area on the lowest practical level when directed.
- Protect your head and neck.
- Remain sheltered until an official all-clear is issued.

During severe thunderstorms or lightning, move indoors and remain there until conditions are safe. Do not call 911 or Campus Safety solely because a weather alert has been issued. Call 911 if the weather creates a separate emergency such as a serious injury, fire, or immediate threat to life.

Bomb Threats and Suspicious Packages or Objects

If you receive a bomb threat by telephone, email, written message, or another method:

- Remain calm and do not attempt to determine whether the threat is credible.
- Preserve the message and any available details.
- If no suspected device is visible, notify Campus Safety & Security immediately.
- If a suspicious package or suspected device is present, follow the communication precautions below before using a cell phone or radio.
- Follow University and law-enforcement instructions. Do not search for a device yourself.

If you discover a suspicious package, object, or substance:

- Do not touch, move, open, or disturb it.
- Keep other people away from the immediate area.
- Do not use a cell phone, radio, or other electronic communication device in the immediate area of a suspected device. Move away first.
- From a safe location, notify Campus Safety & Security using the safest available method.
- If an explosion, fire, serious injury, or other immediate threat to life occurs, call 911 from a safe location.
- Follow instructions from University officials or emergency responders and be prepared to evacuate or shelter in place if directed.

Hazardous Materials

If a chemical spill, gas leak, hazardous-material release, or similar situation occurs:

- Stay away from the affected area and do not touch or attempt to clean an unknown substance.
- If there is an immediate danger to life or health, move to a safe location and call 911 first. Then notify Campus Safety & Security when safe.
- If there is no immediate danger but a hazardous condition or unknown spill is present, notify Campus Safety & Security and keep others away.
- Follow emergency notifications carefully. Authorities may direct the campus to evacuate or to shelter in place.
- Do not evacuate through a hazardous area unless instructed by emergency personnel.

Medical Emergency

For a serious or potentially life-threatening illness or injury:

- Call 911 immediately.
- Provide first aid, CPR, or AED assistance only to the extent you are trained and able to do so safely.
- Do not move a seriously injured person unless remaining in place creates a greater immediate danger.
- Notify Campus Safety & Security as soon as practical so University personnel can assist emergency responders.

Utility Failure or Building Emergency

Power failures, gas leaks, water or sewer problems, or other building emergencies may require evacuation or sheltering in place.

If a utility failure or building problem occurs:

- Avoid damaged equipment, exposed wiring, unusual odors, standing water near electrical equipment, or other hazards.
- For a non-emergency building or utility problem, notify Campus Safety & Security and follow instructions from University or Facilities personnel.
- If you smell gas or believe an immediate danger exists, move to a safe location and call 911 first. Then notify Campus Safety & Security when safe.
- Do not evacuate solely because of a utility failure unless conditions are unsafe or you are instructed to do so.

Individuals Who May Need Assistance

Students and employees who may require assistance during an evacuation, shelter-in-place event, or other emergency should contact the appropriate University office in advance so that emergency assistance needs can be addressed.

During an emergency, follow directions provided by University officials and emergency responders. Anyone who can safely assist a person who needs help may do so without placing either person in additional danger. If a person is in immediate danger or cannot reach safety, call 911 and provide the person's location; also notify Campus Safety & Security when possible.

Family Reunification

A major emergency may require students and employees to be relocated away from the affected portion of campus.

For security and operational reasons, BPCU does not publish emergency reunification locations in advance. If reunification procedures are activated, the University will communicate the selected location and instructions through official emergency communications or other available means.

Do not travel to a presumed reunification location or toward an emergency scene. Follow the location and instructions provided by BPCU or emergency responders. Students, employees, families, and visitors should not enter a restricted area or interfere with emergency response operations.

Official Information During an Emergency

BPCU will communicate verified information as it becomes available. During an emergency:

- Follow BPCU emergency notifications and instructions from emergency responders.
- Do not enter restricted areas.
- Do not interfere with emergency-response activities.
- Avoid spreading rumors or unverified information.
- Direct media inquiries to the University official designated to communicate on behalf of BPCU.

Emergency Preparedness and Drills

BPCU regularly tests its emergency notification and response procedures and conducts emergency drills and exercises. Students and employees are expected to participate as directed and to treat drills as opportunities to become familiar with the actions they may need to take during an actual emergency.

Building-specific evacuation routes and severe-weather shelter information are posted or communicated within campus facilities. Students and employees should become familiar with emergency exits and safety information in the buildings they regularly use.

BPCU Quick Reference Phone List

Title	Name	Office
President	Steven F. Echols	912-583-3201
Provost	Justin Russell	912-583-3161
VP of Enrollment, Athletics, & Student Development	Chris Dooley	912-583-3221
VP of Finance	Nicole Shepard	912-583-3298
VP For Institutional Effectiveness and Research	Toni Banks	912-583-3118
VP of Plant Operations, Safety, & Security	Ted Towns	912-583-3280
VP of Advancement	Brandon Braddy	912-583-3167
Director of Information & Technology	Jacob Brown	912-583-3123
Asst. VP of Admissions	Michael Moran	912-583-3245
Director of Safety & Security	Robert Bridges	912-551-3434
Director of Campus Life	Cheyenne Bowen	912-583-3297
Campus Pastor	Steve Edwards	912-253-1327

Brewton Parker Christian University
201 David-Eliza Fountain Circle
Mount Vernon, GA 30445

Phone Number: 912-583-2241