Hurricane Preparedness Checklist for Students

Hurricanes are one of the most significant hazards associated with living in South Florida. Therefore, it is critical that all students who utilize the University of Miami’s Medical Campus complete four basic steps to ensure their preparedness BEFORE Hurricane Season begins: Be Informed, Make a Plan, Build a Kit & Get Involved.

# 1 - Be Informed

☐ Know the basic terms and concepts:
  - Tropical Storm: A low-pressure, rotating storm with sustained winds from 39 mph to 74 mph.
  - Hurricane: An intense, low-pressure, rotating storm with sustained winds from 74 mph (Category 1) to more than 157 mph (Category 5)
  - Hurricane Season: June 1st through November 30th
  - Hurricane/ Tropical Storm Watch: Respective storm conditions are possible within 48 hours.
  - Hurricane/ Tropical Storm Warning: Respective storm conditions are expected within 36 hours.

☐ Review the University-wide and Medical Campus Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans: www.security.med.miami.edu/preparedness-disaster-resiliency
  - Communication is an important aspect of all plans. As a Student, you may receive official communications with instructions from both the University as well as your program administration. You must adhere to both. Note that 1st and 2nd year Medical Student may receive different instructions than 3rd and 4th year students.

☐ Ensure your contact information is up-to-date in CaneLink OR myUM so you receive communications from the University: https://canelink.miami.edu OR www.miami.edu/myum

☐ Understand that the University is not a shelter, and NOBODY is allowed to remain on the Medical Campus when it is closed. Several hours before forecast Hurricane impact, entrances to all campus buildings will be secured and card access systems will be deactivated to prevent reentry.
  - When selecting a home/ apartment, consider the hurricane rating of the structure as well as its elevation and proximity to other natural and man-made hazards.

☐ Review the Miami-Dade County Hurricane Guide and website: www.miamidade.gov/hurricane

☐ Know if you live in a Storm Surge Planning Zone (Evacuation Zone), as designed by Miami-Dade County Emergency Management. If so, make sure your plan in step # 2 details where you will evacuate to (friend in non-evacuation area, hurricane shelter, parents out of state, etc.): http://www.miamidade.gov/fire/evacuation-zones.asp

# 2 - Make a Plan

☐ Create a Personal/ Family Emergency Plan, and ensure family, friends, roommates and trusted classmates have a copy of your plan so they know where you will be and how to get in touch with you. Several templates are available:
Ensure your plan includes important phone numbers and websites such as:
- UM Emergency Information Hotline: 1-800-227-0354 // www.miami.edu/enn
- UM Medical Education: 305-243-1777 // www.mededu.miami.edu/MedEd
- UM Medical Campus Security: 305-243-6000 // www.security.med.miami.edu
- Miami-Dade County Information: 305-468-5900 (or 311) // www.miamidade.gov/information

If you live in a Storm Surge Planning Zone (Evacuation Zone), ensure your plan includes details on exactly where you will evacuate to and how you will get there.

If you have a pet, ensure your plan includes details for their care.

# 3 - Build a Kit
Pre-assemble a bag or portable box with the following items:
- Water: Potable (one gallon per person per day, minimum of 3 day supply)
- Food: Non-perishable packaged or canned (minimum of 3 day supply)
- Prescription Drugs / First Aid Kit
- Battery-powered radio (with NOAA Weather station and tone alert) / Extra Batteries
- Flashlight / Extra Batteries
- Personal hygiene items (including hand sanitizer, moist towelettes, garbage bags, plastic ties, sunscreen, deodorant, toothbrush)
- Important documents in a waterproof container (insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, social security card, etc.)
- Clothing (including jeans, sturdy shoes, hat, gloves, rain gear)
- Basic tools (including a manual can opener, pliers, screwdriver)
- Duct tape and plastic sheeting
- Cash
- Telephones (corded landline phone and fully-charged extra cell phone battery)
- Miscellaneous Items (whistle, compass, paper, pencil, matches, bleach)
- Mess kit (plates, cups, utensils, napkins)
- As applicable, Pet-care items

# 4 - Get Involved
If you want to take an active role in helping the community prepare for, respond to, or recover from a Hurricane, join an official organization. Consider the following:
- UMMSM DOCS Hurricane Response Program: http://umdocs.mededu.miami.edu
- Miami-Dade County Medical Reserve Corps University of Miami Response Team (MDCMRC-UMRT): http://security.med.miami.edu/preparedness-disaster-resiliency/preparedness-mrc
- UM Canes Emergency Response Team (CERT): www.umcert.com
- Other disaster organizations: http://www.ready.gov/get-involved