The College has established procedures to enhance the protection of lives and property through effective use of College and/or community resources in the event of an emergency or disaster.

The following definitions of an emergency are provided to assist in determining the appropriate response:

A **minor emergency** is any incident, potential or actual, that will not seriously affect the overall functional capacity of the College. Minor emergencies are situations where minor damage or injury has occurred. Assistance is needed from the Campus Police Department but may or may not be needed from outside emergency services. For all minor emergencies, the Campus Police Department must be notified and the responding officer(s) will determine if outside assistance is needed and then make appropriate notifications.

A **major emergency** is any incident, potential or actual, that affects an entire building or several or all buildings, and/or which disrupts or will disrupt the overall operations of the College. Major emergencies are situations where major damage has occurred or serious injury or death has occurred or may occur. Major policy considerations and decisions may be required as specified in 6Hx27:12-22.

A **disaster** is any event or occurrence that has seriously impaired or halted the operations of the College. In some cases, mass casualties and severe property damage may be sustained. A coordinated effort of all campus-wide resources is required to effectively control the situation. Outside emergency services will be essential.

The College Emergency Response Plan is predicated on a realistic approach to the problems likely to be encountered on campus during a major emergency or disaster. The following general assumptions apply.

1. An emergency or disaster may occur at any time, day or night, weekend or holiday, with little or no warning.
2. The succession of events in an emergency is not entirely predictable; therefore, published contingency plans will serve only as a guide/checklist and may require field modification in order to meet the requirements of the emergency.

3. Disasters may affect other residences in the geographical vicinity of the College and, as a result, city, county, state and/or federal emergency assistance may not be immediately available. A delay in receiving outside emergency service may be expected. A state of emergency will be declared if information indicates that such a condition is developing or is probable as specified in 6Hx27:12-22.