G T U - A L E R T

WHAT IS GTU-ALERT?

GTU-Alert is the emergency warning system used by the Graduate Theological Union. The warning system is designed to increase the safety on the GTU campus by alerting subscribers in the event of an imminent threat to safety or security.

The GTU contracts with E2Campus, a leading provider of emergency alert systems, to furnish its alerting system. The GTU chose E2Campus to provide its alerting system because it is reliable and provides service 24/7. Cal Poly, Arizona State University, Lehigh University and Penn State use the same company.

WHO CAN SIGN UP?

Any member of the GTU community may sign up for the GTU-Alert. ABSW is a member school of the GTU. GTU-Alert is an opt-in system, meaning that you must sign up to receive emergency warning messages. There is no automatic sign up.

CAN MY FRIENDS OR FAMILY SIGN UP?

Yes, you can have your friends or family sign up to receive GTU emergency warnings. Just have them follow the sign up instructions below.

How do I sign up for GTU-Alert?

Members of the GTU community may sign up at: or go to www.gtulink.edu and follow the links provided there. You will be asked to provide your name, school and preferred means of notification (for example, SMS, email, voicemail). The GTU does not use this information for any purpose other than emergency notification, and it will not show up in any GTU directory. Accounts on GTU-Alert will remain active as long as you maintain current contact information. You can delete your account at any time. The GTU will delete accounts with invalid contact information.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I REGISTER A BLOCKED SMS NUMBER?

You will not receive alert messages if you register a SMS number that you or your cellular provider block your phone from receiving text messages. If you believe you have a blocked SMS number, do not enter that field and choose another means of notification instead (i.e. email or voicemail).

WHEN WILL GTU-ALERT BE USED?

The GTU will activate the system only when absolutely necessary. It will activate the system in the event of an immediate threat to life or safety. The GTU may also activate GTU-Alert to send urgent or important messages when information will be helpful, but no individual action is immediately required.

For example, GTU-Alert will be activated if:

- Someone with a gun is threatening the GTU campus
- There is a bomb threat that the Berkeley Police Department determines is credible enough to take precautions
- There is an approaching wild fire, or after an earthquake has caused damage to buildings that could threaten life or safety

WHAT WILL EMERGENCY MESSAGES SAY?

Active GTU-Alert messages will begin with the words "emergency," "urgent" or "important." Tests of the system will begin with the word "test." The message will be very brief and in the event of a developing or fast moving situation, the initial message may be very general, such as "Emergency: Reports of a threatening situation - shelter in place until further notice." As more information becomes available you will receive updates.

When a message begins with "emergency" it will usually mean that there is an immediate threat to life safety and that you should take some action, such as keep away from a dangerous area, evacuate the campus or take shelter.

When a message begins with "urgent" or "important" it will usually contain important information but you may not need to take any immediate action. For example, a message may read "Urgent - shooting reported south of campus. Suspect in custody" or "Important - library is closed due to power outage."

WHO CAN ACTIVATE GTU-ALERT?

The Vice President for Administration and Finance of the Graduate Theological Union can activate the GTU-Alert system. Staff at the Consortial IT department can also activate the system.

WHO MANAGES GTU-ALERT?

Overall responsibility for GTU-Alert resides with the Vice President for Administration and Finance. Staff in the GTU consortial IT department manage and maintain the configuration of GTU-Alert. This includes performing regular system tests, maintaining administrator accounts, configuring new alert services, purging user accounts and working with the system provider, as necessary. IT staff may also provide end user assistance when needed.