

4 Steps to Develop an Emergency Preparedness (2019 Plan)



A person never knows when a crisis or emergency will strike. In recent history, there have been several instances of catastrophic events taking place throughout businesses, schools and within local communities. While we can never be truly ready for an emergency, there are 4 steps we can take to help ensure your business or school has the best emergency plan in place.

1. Invest in a Preparedness Program

An emergency plan should have a Program Manager and a set of key people who are trained to take action in the event an emergency takes place. This group should work together prior to an emergency taking place to ensure that the plan created has been tested and refined based on various criteria that could change based on potential hazards.

2. Program Planning

Regardless if you are a business, school or public location in the community. A program plan is needed for every business. Based on [Ready.gov](#) up to 40% of businesses are affected by a natural or human caused disaster during their business lifetime. Due to this staggering fact, businesses should make sure they are aware of all the possible risks and hazards that could impact their business. While using a spreadsheet can help draft an initial version of the plan,

there are free tools available called Business Impact Analysis (BIA) that can help you form a more comprehensive risk assessment specific to your business.

3. Program Implementation

Once business risks and hazards are identified, the next step is to develop a plan and implement the plan. Each plan should contain the following aspects to ensure a comprehensive strategy:

- Emergency Response Plan
- Crisis Communication Plan
- Business Continuity Plan
- Informational Technology Plan

For more information on creating an implementation plan, visit Ready.gov [here](#). Once a plan is implemented, be sure to test your plan regularly through the year. This will help keep new staff members trained and allow opportunities to identify gaps and opportunities to improve your plan.

4. Program Improvement

Hopefully your emergency plan is just a plan and never needs to be put into action, but in the event you do, take time to review and adjust your plan afterwards to address any problems that occurred during the execution period. In the event another emergency takes place, you will want to reduce any potential pitfalls and restore business operations as soon as possible.

In the event you would like to request a free security consultation to identify security risks for your business, Crime Alert Security is here to help- simply email at info@crimealertsecurity.com or visit www.crimealertsecurity.com to learn more!