

Safe Schools

It's [America's Safe Schools Week](#)! Many schools and institutions of higher education are conducting activities designed to educate students, faculty and staff about school safety procedures. Creating and maintaining a safe school environment is a goal shared by all schools and districts, and there are many tools and resources available to help your school in this important activity. Check out <http://www.ready.gov/youth-preparedness> for great resources which are designed to engage youth in emergency preparedness. Additionally, K-12 schools and institutions of higher education are working through [America's PrepareAthon!](#) to conduct drills, exercises and activities which are designed to increase knowledge of protective actions in advance of natural disasters.

For example, the University of Missouri-Kansas City and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln conducted ReadyCampus events to help students prepare for weather-related disasters, including tornadoes and winter storms. Campus drills and exercises were conducted, and students downloaded [the FEMA app](#) and participated in other activities designed to increase their knowledge of what to do when disaster strikes. Ready Campus is a partnership between these universities and FEMA Region VII that combines local first responders, emergency preparedness organizations, and community partners in an open and engaging atmosphere with college students.

Additionally, the [Kentucky Center for School Safety](#)'s PrepareAthon! recently conducted statewide tornado and earthquake drills at all public schools across the Commonwealth of Kentucky. This resulted in more than 1.3 million students, faculty and staff practicing specific actions which will help keep them safe in the event of a disaster. Check out the [tools and resources](#) available to you now and get started in planning your very own PrepareAthon! event.