# University of Washington Environmental Health & Safety logo.Medical Emergencies

Heart attack, choking, bleeding, poisoning, and burns, as well as other serious medical conditions, can happen anywhere. Prompt action and clear communication is vital when providing help.

*The University provides the following instructions to help UW personnel, students and visitors prepare for responding to an emergency on the Seattle campus. University units and departments can modify these instructions for their specific location(s) and add them to their Fire Safety and Evacuation Plans.*

## In the Event of a Sudden Medical Emergency

* Assess the person. Look on wrist, ankle, or around neck for a medic alert bracelet or necklace.
* Call 9-1-1, or have someone else do it.
	+ If you are alone, yell loudly for help.
	+ If you are unable to summon help, call 9-1-1 *first* before assisting the person.
	+ When calling 9-1-1 from a landline inside a Seattle campus building, the call will be routed directly to the UW Police Department. If you are using a cellphone to call 9-1-1, tell the operator you are at the University of Washington.

Give the operator as much information as possible, including:

* + Type of emergency
	+ What help is needed
	+ Exact address or building name
	+ Room number or area
	+ Your telephone number
	+ Any information from medic alert bracelet or necklace
	+ Victim information such as age and symptoms
	+ Don’t hang up until you are told to do so by the 9-1-1 operator.
* Do not move the victim unless absolutely necessary. In many cases, moving the victim may cause additional trauma.
* Administer first aid or CPR if you are qualified and current with your training.
* Follow universal precautions. Treat all blood and body fluids as if they were known to be infectious for HIV, HBV, or other bloodborne pathogens.
* Look for an emergency contact phone number. The contact number may be on the person’s cellphone.
* Report the incident. Submit a report using the Online Accident Reporting System (OARS) at oars.ehs.washington.edu.