

**Seismic Preparedness Office Furniture (Earth Quake Prevention)**

Southern Oregon University recommends the following for additional safety in the event of a seismic anomaly. These recommendations are to prevent further injury during or following a seismic event. The use of these recommendations is voluntary.

**Purpose**

The purpose of these recommendations is to provide guidelines and procedures by which office furniture can be placed or installed safety to prevent further injury in the event of a seismic anomaly. While language in building codes addresses non-structural components furniture has no design requirements although it does need to be anchored properly. These recommendations are to prevent further injury during or following a seismic event.

**Responsibilities**

Furniture that meets the appropriate criteria will be secured upon installation. Furniture that is previously installed and found to need seismic upgrading will have a work request submitted to Facilities. Building Managers and Safety inspectors will conduct inspections periodically and recommend seismic improvements.

**Procedure**

 Book shelves exceeding 30 inches (.762 meters) need to be secured to structural features of the building. Shelving above 3 feet (1 meter) will have a safety strap, shelf lip or be angled to prevent books and object from falling. Large picture frames, large displays and any other heavy objects that could pose a safety risk during or after a seismic event need to need to be secured with straps or other forms of securing methods to prevent injuries.

**Minimum requirements:**

Items that could fall and pose a safety risk will be secured in such a way to prevent an injury or a safety hazard in the event of a seismic event. This can be accomplished by moving items closer to the ground or securing items to structures.