How to react when law enforcement arrives:
• Remain calm and follow officers’ instructions.
• Put down any items in your hands (i.e., bags, jackets).
• Immediately raise hands and spread fingers.
• Keep hands visible at all times.
• Avoid making quick movements toward officers such as holding on to them for safety.
• Avoid pointing, screaming and/or yelling.
• Do not stop to ask officers for help or direction when evacuating. Proceed in the direction from which officers are entering.

Information to provide to law enforcement or 911 operators:
• Location of the active shooter
• Number of shooters
• Physical description of shooter(s)

If you have information on a crime, or you see something suspicious contact HLGU Public Safety
Call or text: 573-248-6268
Email: publicsafety@hlg.edu

REMEMBER
Good decisions will keep you safe and help prevent you from becoming a victim.
**WHAT IS AN ACTIVE SHOOTER**

An active shooter is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area. In most cases, active shooters use firearms and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims.

These individuals have only one purpose: to kill as many people as they can before committing suicide or being stopped by the police.

**RESPONDING TO AN ACTIVE SHOOTER IN YOUR VICINITY**

Quickly determine the most reasonable way to protect your own life. Remember that others are likely to follow the lead of faculty and staff members during an active shooter situation. It is important you make your decision quickly as seconds do count. Most active shooter incidents are over in 5 to 10 minutes.

You should always be aware of your environment. Take note of any exits in any facility you visit. Ask yourself what you would do to get out of the building you are in if an emergency incident happens.

**You have three options when faced with an active shooter in your building:**

1. **EVACUATE**

   *If there is an accessible escape path, attempt to evacuate the building.*
   - Have an escape route and plan in mind.
   - Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow.
   - Leave your belongings behind.
   - Help others escape only if possible.
   - Prevent individuals from entering an area where the active shooter may be.
   - Keep your hands visible.
   - Follow the instructions of any police officers.
   - Do not attempt to move wounded people.
   - Call 911 when you are safe.

2. **HIDE OUT**

   *If evacuation is not possible, find a place to hide where the active shooter is less likely to find you. Your hiding place should:*
   - Be out of the active shooter’s view.
   - Provide protection if shots are fired in your direction (i.e., an office with a closed and locked door).
   - Not trap you or restrict your options for movement.

   **To prevent an active shooter from entering your hiding place:**
   - Lock the door.
   - Blockade the door with heavy furniture.

   **If the active shooter is nearby:**
   - Lock the door.
   - Silence your cell phone and/or pager.
   - Turn off any source of noise (i.e., radios, televisions).

3. **TAKE ACTION**

   *Hide behind large items (i.e., cabinets, desks)*
   *Remain quiet*

   **If evacuation and hiding out are not possible:**
   - Remain calm.
   - Dial 911, if possible, to alert police to the active shooter’s location.
   - If you cannot speak, leave the line open and allow the dispatcher to listen.

**3. TAKE ACTION**

*As a last resort, when your life is in imminent danger, attempt to disrupt and/or incapacitate the active shooter by:*

- Acting as aggressively as possible against him/her.
- Throwing items and improvising weapons.
- Yelling.
- Committing to your actions.

**How to respond when law enforcement arrives:**

*Law enforcement’s purpose is to stop the active shooter as soon as possible. Officers will proceed directly to the area in which the last shots were heard.*

- Officers may wear regular patrol uniforms or external bulletproof vests, Kevlar helmets, and other tactical equipment.
- Officers may be armed with rifles, shotguns, and handguns.
- Officers may use pepper spray or tear gas to control the situation.
- Officers may shout commands and push individuals to the ground for their safety.