# Emergency Management vs. Business Continuity

| Emergency Management | Business Continuity |
|---|---|
| Focuses on protecting life, safety, and property during emergencies and disasters. | Focuses on maintaining and restoring critical services and operations during disruptions. |
| Activated before, during, and immediately after an incident. | Activated when normal business functions are disrupted or unavailable. |
| Coordinates incident response through ICS/EOC structures. | Coordinates continuity and recovery actions through departmental continuity plans. |
| Examples: earthquakes, active threats, hazardous materials, severe weather, wildfires. | Examples: IT outages, staffing shortages, facility loss, vendor disruptions, utility failures. |
| Primary Question: **How do we respond?** | Primary Question: **How do we continue operating?** |

**How They Work Together**

Emergency Management manages the incident. Business Continuity manages the continuation and recovery of essential department functions. Both programs support campus resilience and work in parallel during significant disruptions.

**Campus Resilience Cycle**

1. Complete VEOCI Plan → 2. Review Annually → 3. Participate in Tabletop Exercise →4. Update Corrective Actions → 5. Improve Resilience

***Key Takeaway: Emergency Management helps the university respond to incidents. Business Continuity helps departments continue delivering critical services despite disruptions.***