

Cooper Notification

How to Comply with the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA)

How does the HEOA affect you?

Institutions of higher education are required by federal law to include an emergency response and evacuation policy statement in their 2010 Annual Security report, which must be distributed by October 1, 2010. This statement must include:

- Procedures your institution will use to immediately notify the campus community upon the confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees occurring on the campus.
- A description of the process your college will use to
 - Confirm that there is a significant emergency or dangerous situation
 - Determine the appropriate segment/segments of the campus community to receive a notification
 - Determine the content of the notification
 - Initiate the notification system
- A statement that the institution will, without delay, take into account the safety of the community, determine the content of the notification, and initiate the notification system
- A list of the titles of persons responsible for carrying out the actions in your plan
- Procedures for disseminating emergency information to the larger community
- Procedures to test the emergency response and evacuation procedures on at least an annual basis

Cooper Notification can help you comply with the HEOA

Cooper Notification's reliable and effective Emergency Notification Systems can

help you immediately notify your entire campus community or segments of your campus. Whether you have a small, contained college campus or a large university system with multiple locations, Cooper Notification provides integrated emergency notification solutions that are customizable to meet your needs, including U.S. patented Roam Secure Alert Network™ (RSAN) emergency text and voice alerting system, WAVES® outdoor "Giant Voice" High Power Speaker Arrays and SAFEPATH® indoor Mass Notification System.

Multilayered Emergency Notification Solutions

More and more, you see college and universities recognizing the need for a multilayered Emergency Notification System also known as a Mass Notification System (MNS). Instead of relying on just one technology to communicate critical information in an emergency, multiple communication channels allow you to reach your entire campus community as well as target the appropriate segments with specific instructions as required in the HEOA. With limited staff and multiple notification layers, which can include voice announcements on indoor and outdoor loudspeakers, display signs, text messages and computer desktop notifications, campuses need a simplified system by Cooper Notification that features one simple-to-use interface to launch all of the different applications.

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Corporate Snapshot

Cooper Notification

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Cooper Notification provides emergency notification systems for colleges and universities nationwide with integrated indoor, outdoor, text and voice alerting systems.

Cooper Notification

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“Reliance on just one form of notification will invariably not reach enough stakeholders to achieve a ‘critical mass’ notification,” said Patrick Weidinger, Director, Safety & Environment Health, Millersville University. “It’s best to use a combination of technologies. However, in an emergency, activating multiple communications systems can slow you down, not allowing you to focus on the actual emergency. We needed a system that allows you to use one simple-to-use interface to launch our different notification channels.”

Instead of utilizing separate systems to notify the entire campus or segments of the campus community, Millersville University chose Cooper Notification’s integrated mass notification system solution. The university, which already utilizes Cooper Notification’s WAVES system for broadcasting messages over wide outdoor areas, switched their campus text message and emergency email alert system provider to Cooper Notification’s U.S. patented Roam Secure Alert Network™ (RSAN™). To accelerate and simplify Millersville’s emergency notification procedures Cooper Notification integrated WAVES with RSAN and the university’s existing in-house telephone system. University officials can now activate their outdoor “Giant Voice” speakers, send email and text notifications and call each phone on campus from one simple user-interface.

Scalability

Budgets don’t always allow for multiple communication systems to be purchased at the same time. The scalability of your Emergency Notification System is key to your campus’s growing needs. A modular and scalable system allows you to expand in phases, building the notification system one layer at a time, starting with an outdoor system or an emergency text alerting system, integrating the different layers as funds become available or expanding the system as your campus adds additional buildings or satellite campuses.

Cooper Notification’s advanced system architecture allows you not only to build your MNS one layer at a time, but also to easily expand the system, adding new buildings and geographically separated



campuses or offices. Our solutions also allow you to integrate and control multiple MNS from multiple locations.

Operate System from Anywhere

Emergencies don’t always happen while you are sitting in your office. You need the ability to remotely activate any of their emergency notification systems. One of the main benefits of Cooper Notification’s mass notification is the ability to send and receive alerts anytime, anywhere across a range of networks and communication devices. Whether in the office, at home or on the road, Cooper Notification’s MNS solutions allow you to utilize your cell phone or laptop computer to activate critical MNS functions.

Interoperability

One of the growing areas in MNS is improving situational awareness and alerting time with interoperable life safety and security systems. By integrating MNS with security systems such as video monitoring and access control, alerts can be automatically sent when a threat is detected. In an emergency, manual activation can create delayed activation of the system, errors in following procedures, and in general chaotic over-reaction. Existing security and life safety systems can be integrated with Cooper Notification’s MNS for improved system management and situation awareness.

Knowledge is critical in effectively responding to emergencies. The more

knowledge you have about a situation, the better you can respond. An interoperable MNS can provide a secure real-time information sharing framework, allowing you to communicate with external systems, including city, county, state and federal emergency management agencies. Cooper Notification is the leading expert in seamless and secure information sharing across government agencies. For example, with our Roam Secure Information eXchange (RSIX), you can share information and communicate with neighboring cities and county emergency management agencies, health departments and other colleges that have a Roam Secure Alert Network (RSAN) system. RSIX also reduces alerting time by automating alerts from a variety of sources, such as the National Weather Service, DHS, AMBER alerts, and monitoring services.

Cooper Notification: Delivering Critical Alerts When It Matters Most

With approximately 500 MNS installations around the globe, Cooper Notification, the industry’s most comprehensive, multi-layered Mass Notification System provider, provides critical, campus-wide emergency communications for universities across the U.S., including George Mason University, University of New Hampshire, several University of Maryland campuses, University of Southern California, University of Central Florida and University of Texas San Antonio and El Paso.