



**University of Pikeville  
Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine  
Office of the Dean**

## **Emergency Notification Service**

**Policy Contact:** Dean, Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine  
**Policy Category:** Administration  
**Policy Number:** 4.2-1(c)  
**Review:** Annually

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### **Purpose**

This policy outlines the emergency communication methods used by the University of Pikeville – Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine (KYCOM) to communicate with students, faculty, and staff at all teaching and training locations. The mass notification system used by the university quickly communicates with subscribed users in the event of an emergency, campus lockdown or inclement weather.

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### **Policy Statement**

In an effort to keep students, faculty, and staff informed in the event of an emergency, campus lockdown or inclement weather announcements, University of Pikeville – Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine (KYCOM) uses an emergency notification system, “BearAlert.” In the event of an emergency, a message is sent to all faculty, staff, and students via BearAlert, notifying them of the emergency, next steps, and location of additional information.

BearAlert is equipped with several communication methods, but the primary and most effective method of communication is via smartphone devices. By installing the app, users receive push notifications immediately when an alert is activated. In addition, the Office of Public Safety utilizes campus beacons that produce a loud, audible notification, with an LED display for instructions. Furthermore, all university owned computers have software installed that allows the screen receive notifications if a BearAlert has been issued.

KYCOM students are trained on the Emergency Notification Service by the University of Pikeville Chief of Public Safety at both OMS-1 and OMS-2 orientation sessions. Students are encouraged and provided time to register for the Emergency Notification Service during the training session. Periodic reminders are sent to all students via email throughout each semester to ensure registration has been completed. Faculty and staff are trained on the Emergency Notification Service by the Chief of Public Safety at all new faculty and staff orientation sessions.


*General Disclaimer:*

*The information available is not to be treated as a contract, but rather a unilateral statement of policy. The university reserves the right to revoke, modify or suspend any of its policies and procedures at any time without notice.*



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In order to receive push notifications via cellular device, registration is required as outlined at:  
<https://www.upike.edu/undergraduate/student-affairs/public-safety/bearalert/>

  
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**Dean**

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April 23, 2025  
**Last Approved Date**

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