

Handout No. 10a: Rapid Visual Screening for the classroom

Group No. _____

Date: _____

Note! This screening survey may not be comprehensive for all classroom resources, layouts, and facilities. This screening survey contains reference to common hazards that are present in most classrooms, but may not reference or mention all the hazards that are present in your classroom. For completeness, this survey should be conducted in collaboration with an experienced engineer knowledgeable of earthquake hazards. For the hazards covered below, it is advised that specific comments be recorded adjacent to the checkbox to describe any peculiarities of the classroom that make the decision unclear.

This handout is adapted from materials from Seismic Sleuths (*FEMA/AGU*, 1994).

1. Are cabinets, bookshelves, and closets securely attached to the walls to prevent overturning?

Yes No

2. Are heavy items stored on the bottom shelves?

Yes No

3. Are books or materials stored on shelves have adequate restrains to keep them from flying off the shelves?

Yes No

4. Do cabinet doors have latches?

Yes No

5. Are television sets and computers securely fastened to work spaces?

Yes No

6. Are desks and chairs located where they cannot slide and block exits?

Yes No

7. Are all heavy and sharp objects/wall decorations/ hanging displays are securely mounted?

Yes No

8. Are laboratory chemicals or cleaning supplies secured so that they won't fall and spill?

Yes No

9. Are heavy furnishing or equipment on wheels protected against rolling?

Yes No

10. Are fire extinguishers securely mounted?

Yes No

11. Are the blackboards/whiteboards securely fastened?

Yes No

12. If there are potted plants or other heavy objects on cabinet tops, are they restrained?

Yes No

13. Are decorative ceiling panels or latticework securely attached?

Yes No

14. Are all the light fixtures secured?

Yes No

15. Are the fluorescent light fixtures resting on the hung ceiling grid or do they have other supports?

Yes No

16. Will hanging light fixtures swing freely without hitting each other if allowed to swing a minimum of 45 degrees?

Yes No

17. If there are suspended or decorative ceilings in the classroom, are they secured?

Yes No

18. If there are exposed pipes (water, gas, etc), are they secured?

Yes No

19. Do you see other hazards not included on this list? Specify.

Yes No