

EARTHQUAKE  
WARNING  
CALIFORNIA



# Don't Get Caught Off Guard

A Walkthrough of Earthquake Warning California  
Tools and Resources



**Cal OES**  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

# Earthquake Warning California

Earthquake Warning California is the state's **earthquake early warning system**, which provides tools and resources to warn Californians before they feel shaking.

The system relies on **innovative technology** that sends warnings to smartphone applications, operating systems, and Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA).

It can help the public, first responders, utility providers, transit systems and other key industrial and business sectors **take actions to save lives**.

Visit [www.earthquake.ca.gov](http://www.earthquake.ca.gov) to learn more.



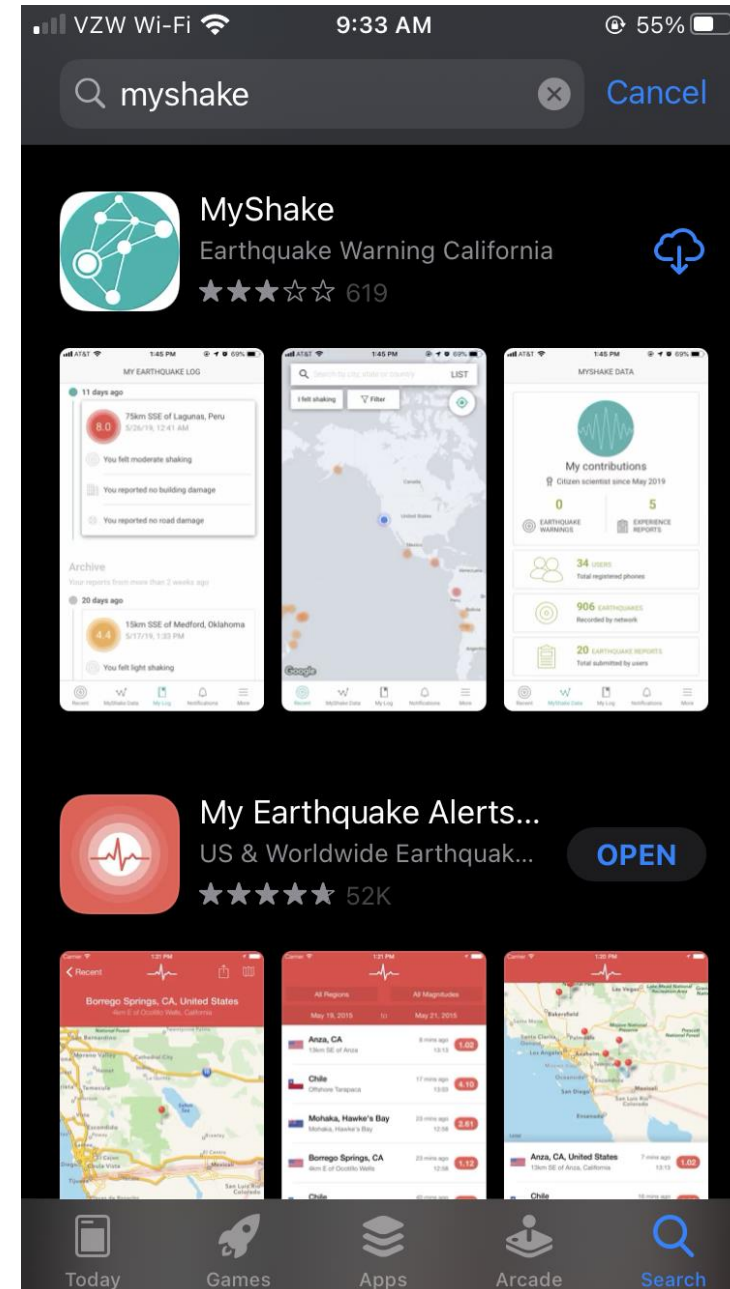
# MyShake App

**MyShake** is an app for mobile devices that uses ground motion sensors from across the state to detect earthquakes before humans can feel them.

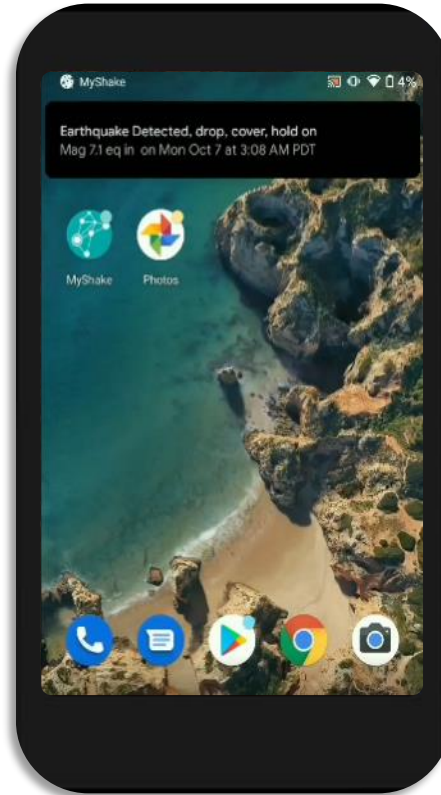
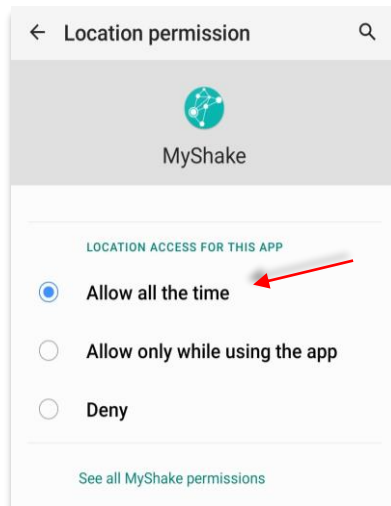
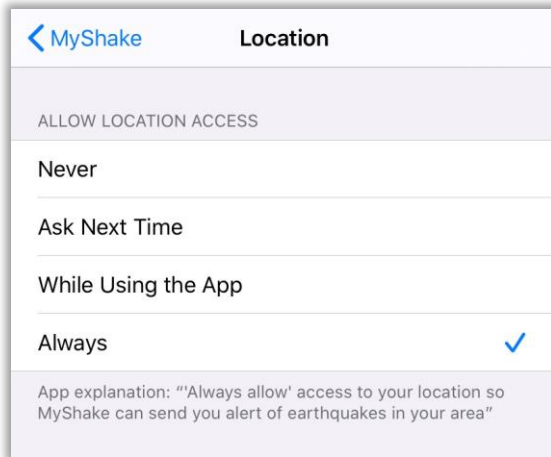
It warns Californians to **“Drop, Cover, and Hold On”** in advance of an earthquake, if they are near where the shaking is happening.

**ShakeAlertLA** was officially retired by the City of L.A. in December of 2020. The City is now encouraging all Angelenos to download MyShake.

**Download the app** for free via Google Play or the Apple App store.

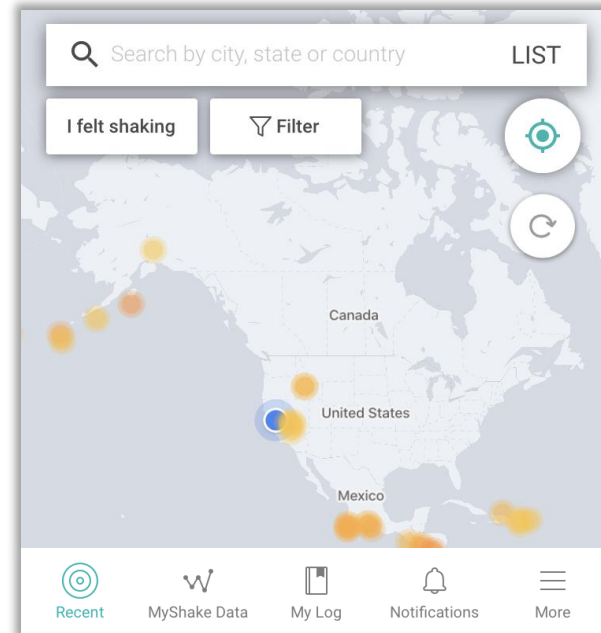
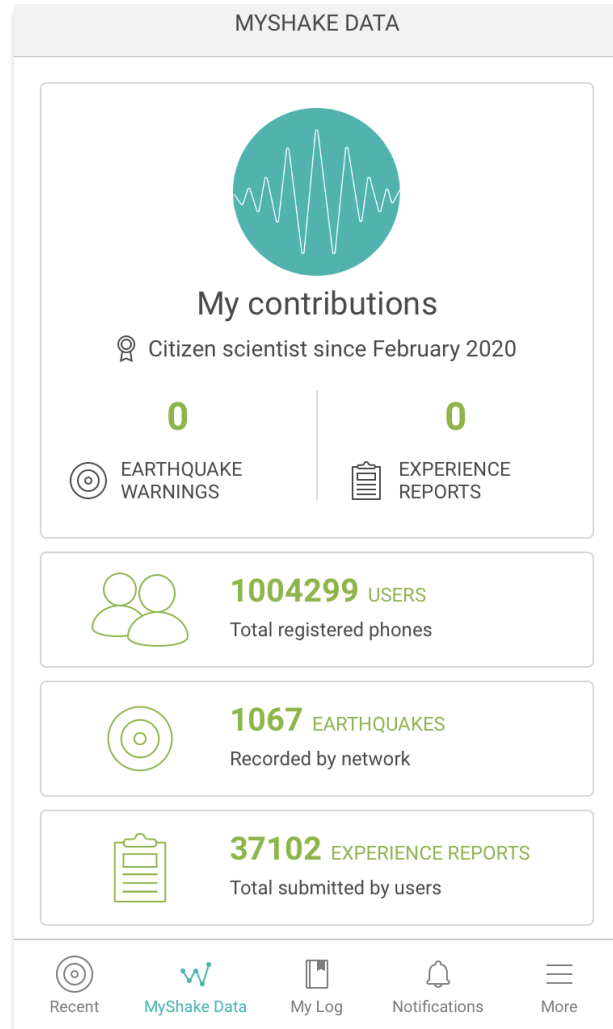


# MyShake App (cont.)



- **Location services** must be set to “always on” to allow the app to provide warnings.
- **Push notifications** are sent to the user's phone or mobile device when they need them.
- The app is **not an earthquake predictor**, it signals when seismic sensors pick up on shaking.
- This is an innovative system that is being **continuously refined and upgraded**.

# MyShake App (cont.)

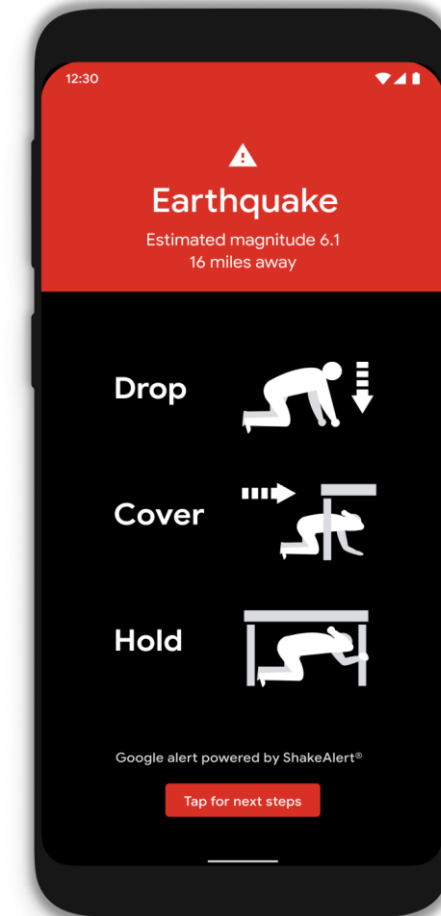


The app shows earthquake activity around the world, and users can view damage reports shared by other **“citizen scientists.”**

Data is collected by UC Berkeley to show trends and improve app earthquake monitoring, with **no personal or identifying information taken from users.**

# Android Earthquake Warnings

- Google partnered with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and Cal OES to include built-in **earthquake warning technology** in its Android phones beginning in August 2020.
- The capability is included in **new phones** and **operating system updates** so warnings will be sent out to all California Android phones unless the user chooses to “opt-out”.
- Android Earthquake Warnings are generated by the same system powering Earthquake Warning California.

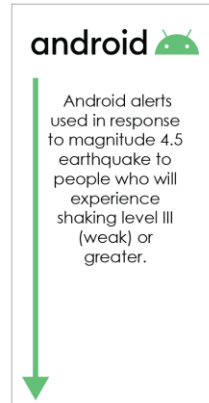
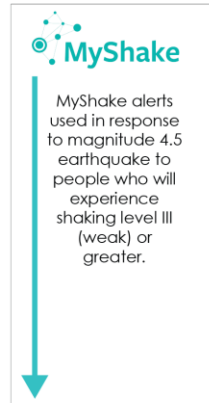
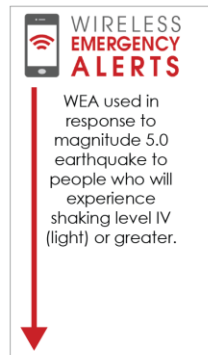


# Wireless Emergency Alerts

## ALERTING THRESHOLDS



INTENSITY	SHAKING
I	Not felt
II	Weak
III	Weak
IV	Light
V	Moderate
VI	Strong
VII	Very Strong
VIII	Severe
IX	Violent
X	Extreme



**Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA)** send geographically targeted, text-like messages to mobile devices to warn users of imminent threats in their area.

Authorized national, state, or local government authorities can send WEA warnings for incidents such as Amber Alerts, severe weather warnings, or **earthquakes with a magnitude greater than 5.0.**

Users must **“opt-in”** on their mobile device settings to allow WEA notifications.



# Industrial Uses of Earthquake Warning California

- Industrial uses can prevent death, injuries, damage and speed recovery.
- The possibilities are endless:
  - Notify personnel or guests
  - Stop elevators and return them to the closest floor automatically
  - Stop conveyor belts automatically
  - Slow or stop trains
  - Close utility valves automatically
  - Open fire house doors
  - De-energize electrical grids
  - and more.....

If you are interested in learning more, please let us connect you to the **USGS ShakeAlert Regional Coordinators**.



Photo source: [www.bart.gov](http://www.bart.gov)



Photo source: [www.cedars-sinai.org](http://www.cedars-sinai.org)



# Using Earthquake Warning California Resources

1

**Download the MyShake App** free on the Apple App Store and Google Play. **Adjust phone settings** to enable Android Earthquake Alerts and WEAs.

2

**Visit** [www.earthquake.ca.gov](http://www.earthquake.ca.gov) to see the latest news and information to help promote earthquake warning resources across California.

3

**Help spread the word** by signing up to receive our partner toolkits and materials to share – email [earthquakeinfo@caloes.ca.gov](mailto:earthquakeinfo@caloes.ca.gov). Toolkits contain newsletter content, social media posts, imagery, and the latest news from Cal OES that organizations can tailor for their audiences.