

2026 Shakeout Exercise

Exercise Message Submission Window

- **October 10 00:00 UTC - October 16 08:00 UTC**

Difficulty Level: **Basic**

Purpose: For the [International ShakeOut Day](#), ETO is again partnering with the [ARES LAX Northeast District](#) (hereafter LAXNORTHEAST) to promote [a joint Winlink exercise](#).

The basic exercise scenario is a major earthquake that occurs near your location at 10:15 AM local time on Thursday, October 15, 2026, you **definitely** feel the earthquake and after taking proper safety precautions (Drop, Cover, and Hold) and checking on the safety of your family and structure, you then report what you've experienced using the DYFI form. There is also a [preparedness guide](#), [quiz](#) and [survey](#). Read the guide before taking the quiz! Save the quiz and survey results and send them via Winlink per the instructions. You may send the quiz and survey before or after Oct 15, 10:15 AM. The USGS asks that you send your DYFI report as soon as feasible after 10:15 AM, but everyone understands that you might have to send later.

The **primary and authoritative exercise instructions** are located on the [LAXNORTHEAST web site](#). There are videos on the site, showing how to complete the three messages. In the event of a difference between standard ETO procedures and the LAXNORTHEAST exercise instructions, assume that the LAXNORTHEAST instructions are correct and are to be followed.

Below are some points for regular ETO participants:

- Remember to address all messages to: SHAKEOUT;ETO-DRILL;WLNET-OE.
- The exercise asks that you send three Winlink messages: a DYFI, a plain text message with your quiz results and a plain text message with your survey results.
- Follow the [specific instructions for the DYFI message](#) (the report is an EXERCISE, you did feel it, date is 10/15/2026, time is 10:15, you responded by Dropped and covered, your observed intensity was at least a 5, and in the comments, use ETO as your group affiliation in the additional comments
- Answer the [2026 Amateur Radio ShakeOut Preparedness Survey](#), download the CSV file with your answers, create a plain text message, attach the CSV file and send it to SHAKEOUT;ETO-DRILL;WLNET-OE.
- Read [The Essential Earthquake Preparedness Guide](#). Read the guide before attempting the quiz!

Winlink Thursday Exercise For October 15, 2026

- Answer the [2026 Amateur Radio Great ShakeOut Quiz](#). You may change your answers. Download the CSV file with your answers, create a plain text message, attach the CSV file and send it to SHAKEOUT;ETO-DRILL;WLNET-OE.
- LAXNORTHEAST instructions say send all messages to SHAKEOUT;ETO-DRILL;WLNET-OE. That is correct. However you may also address your messages to your [normal ETO clearinghouse](#) and ETO-BK.
- LAXNORTHEAST instructions say that the exercise window runs through October 19, 00:00 UTC (Sunday, Oct 18, 5 PM, PDT). That is correct. However, if you choose to address your messages to your normal ETO clearinghouse and ETO-BK, you should try to send your messages before the “normal” ETO exercise window of Friday, Oct 16, 1 AM PDT.