



Policy on Review of Animal Use at the University of Illinois

Policy:

- All research, teaching, and outreach activities involving vertebrate animals at the University of Illinois must receive approval from the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) before initiation of the activity.
- Once initial approval is acquired, investigators must obtain approval of any changes before they are implemented by submitting a minor or major amendment to the IACUC for review.
- The approval is for a three-year period, and mandatory annual reviews are conducted by the IACUC.
- If the approved use of animals is expected to continue beyond three years, a new *Proposal for Activities Involving Animals* must be submitted to the IACUC, reviewed, and approved prior to expiration of the active protocol.

Procedure to Receive IACUC Approval:

The initial submission, review, and approval process involves:

1. Preparation and submission to the [IACUC office](#) of a completed *Proposal for Activities Involving Animals* ([protocol](#)) by a resident faculty member acting as the responsible principal investigator (PI).
2. Pre-review by the IACUC staff for completeness.
3. Primary review by an IACUC committee member.
4. Primary review by a veterinarian familiar with the requested species.
5. Verification of IACUC and Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) training for personnel.
6. Confirmation that requirements for biological, chemical, and radiation safety have been satisfied with the Division of Research Safety (DRS).
7. Submission by the PI of requested changes, corrections, or clarifications.
8. Review by a quorum of the IACUC, which will:
 - a. approve;
 - b. require modifications to secure approval;
 - c. withhold approval of proposed activities.
9. Written notification to the PI of the IACUC's decision.
10. Signatory agreement by the PI to comply with campus and federal requirements for animal use. Completion and return of the *IACUC Protocol Signature Form* to the [IACUC office](#) constitutes this agreement.
11. Written notification to the PI of approvals. Use of animals may begin upon receipt of a letter of *Approval of Animal Use* from the [IACUC office](#).

Amendment to approved protocols involves:

1. Submission of a minor amendment form for small changes or additions/deletions of personnel.
2. Submission of a revised *IACUC Proposal for Activities Involving Animals* for significant changes such as addition of new procedures, changes in numbers of animals, changes in numbers or types of sampling of live animals, and other changes.
3. Review by the IACUC, whom will approve, require modifications to secure approval, or withhold approval of proposed changes.
4. Notification of the PI in writing of the decision.

Background:

The University of Illinois is registered with the United States Department of Agriculture as a research facility in accordance with the Animal Welfare Act (Public Law 89-544) and in accordance with the Public Health Service Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. The University of Illinois maintains an animal welfare assurance with the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare, National Institutes of Health.

Role of the IACUC:

Federal regulations require each institution using vertebrate animals in research, teaching, or testing to appoint an institutional animal care and use committee that provides oversight to the animal use program. The IACUC fulfills this requirement at the University of Illinois. It is composed of research scientists, veterinarians, non-scientists, and community members in accord with federal law and policies.

Role of the Principal Investigator:

The principal investigator (PI) is responsible for ensuring that IACUC approval has been secured before any proposed use or changes to approved use of animals occurs. The PI is responsible for ensuring that all personnel working under their direction have adequate training and are knowledgeable regarding the animal use activities for which they are approved.

Role of the Agricultural Animal Care and Use Program ([AACUP](#)):

AACUP veterinarians and animal scientists serve on the IACUC and provide review of protocols and amendments involving agricultural animals. AACUP also provides consulting and training to investigators regarding animal housing, care, and use.

Role of the Division of Animal Resources ([DAR](#)):

DAR veterinarians serve on the IACUC and provide veterinary review of protocols and amendments involving laboratory animals or wildlife. DAR also provides consulting and training to investigators regarding animal use.

Role of the Occupational Health and Safety Program ([OHS](#)):

OHS identifies and assesses health and safety risks to personnel working with or around animals. The OHS Specialist and Medical Reviewer collaborate with the IACUC and other units to provide education, training, and medical recommendations to animal caretakers and users regarding identified risks.

Reference(s):

[Public Health Service Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals Animal Welfare Regulations, 9 CFR, Part 2, Subpart C](#)
[Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, NRC, 1996](#)
[Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Agricultural Research and Teaching, FASS, third Ed. 2010](#)
[Campus Administrative Manual \(CAM\)](#)

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