

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON

INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE

AUTHORITY SOP

The President has designated the Vice President for Research as the Institutional Official. The Institutional Official appoints members of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) including the Chairperson. The University of Texas at Arlington IACUC serves as an advisory body to the Institutional Official.

The IACUC has the mandated authority to:

1. Review at least once every six months the program for humane care and use of animals, using the Institute of Laboratory Animal Research (ILAR) Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Guide) and the Animal Welfare Act (Act) as bases for evaluation.
2. Inspect at least once every six months all animal facilities (including satellite facilities) and animal study areas using the Guide and Act as bases for evaluation.
3. Review concerns involving the care and use of animals.
4. Review and approve, require modifications in (to secure approval) or withhold approval of those components of activities related to the care and use of animals.
5. Make recommendations to the Institutional Official regarding any aspect of the animal care program, facilities, or personnel training.
6. Prepare semi-annual reports of the IACUC evaluations conducted as required by number(s) 1 and 2 above, and submit the reports to the Institutional Official. A majority of the Committee members must sign the reports indicating their approval of the information submitted. Reports shall be maintained and made available to regulating agencies upon request. Reports must contain a description of the nature and extent of adherence to the Guide and Act and must identify specifically any departures from their provisions, and must state the reasons for each departure. Reports must distinguish significant deficiencies from minor deficiencies. A significant deficiency is one which is or may be a threat to the health or safety of the animals. If program or facility deficiencies are noted, the reports must contain a reasonable and specific plan and schedule for correcting each deficiency.
7. Review and approve, require modification in (to secure approval), or withhold approval of proposed significant changes regarding the use of animals in ongoing activities.

8. Ensure that scientists, animal technicians and other personnel involved with animal care, treatment and use are provided with training in the humane practice of animal maintenance and experimentation, and the concept, availability and use of research or testing methods that limit the use of animals or animal distress.
9. The IACUC may suspend any activity that it previously approved if it determines that the activity is not being conducted in accordance with applicable provision of the Guide, Act, or National Institutes of Health (NIH) Assurance Statement. The IACUC may suspend an activity only after review of the matter at a convened meeting or a quorum of the IACUC and with the suspension vote of a majority of the quorum present.
 - A. If the IACUC suspends an activity involving animals, the Institutional Official in consultation with the IACUC shall review the reasons for suspension, take appropriate corrective action, and report that action with the full explanation to the appropriate regulatory and/or accrediting entities.