UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON

INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE

TRAINING SOP

I. Regulatory Authority
   A. [Public Health Service (PHS) Policy IV.A](#) requires the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) to provide training or instruction in the humane practice of animal care and use, as well as training or instruction in research or testing methods that minimize the number of animals required to obtain valid results and minimize animal distress. Training must be offered to scientists, animal technicians, and other personnel involved in animal care, treatment, or use.
   B. [U.S. Government Principle VIII](#) states that investigators and other personnel shall be appropriately qualified and experienced for conducting procedures on living animals. Adequate arrangements shall be made for their in-service training, including the proper and humane care and use of laboratory animals.
   C. The [Animal Welfare Act (§2143.d)](#) states that each research facility shall provide for the training of scientists, animal technicians, and other personnel involved with animal care and treatment in such facility as required by the Secretary. Such training shall include instruction on:
      1. the humane practice of animal maintenance and experimentation;
      2. research or testing methods that minimize or eliminate the use of animals or limit animal pain or distress;
      3. utilization of the information service at the National Agricultural Library; and
      4. methods whereby deficiencies in animal care and treatment should be reported.

II. Responsibilities
   A. The IACUC will:
      1. provide online training modules, workshops, presentations, and referrals for offsite training regarding the humane care and use of animals;
      2. oversee the training and certification program; and
      3. maintain documentation of completion of all training described in II.A.1.
   B. The Animal Care Facility (ACF) Manager and Attending Veterinarian (AV) will provide hands-on training.
   C. The Principal Investigator (PI) will ensure that all protocol personnel have completed all IACUC training requirements and are properly trained (both site-specific and species-specific) on all procedures involving animals before the commencement of animal work.

III. Types of Training

A. UT Arlington's IACUC requires all individuals involved in the care and use of research animals to complete the online training module entitled IACUC General Training as well as the IACUC Surgery Training and IACUC Field Research Training modules if applicable to their IACUC protocol. Online training modules are required before commencement of any animal-use activity and may be required again if there are any changes in the training/animal care program, issues of non-compliance, or if requested by the Animal Care Staff, PI, or IACUC. Completion of training is documented by the Office of Regulatory Services.

1. The General Training Module includes information regarding:
   a. humane methods of animal maintenance and experimentation, including the basic needs of different species of animals;
   b. proper handling and care for the various species of animals used in the facility;
   c. use of research and testing methods that minimize the number of animals required to obtain valid results as well as the minimization of distress;
   d. occupational health and safety concerns such as zoonoses and the importance of proper personal protective equipment (PPE);
   e. appropriate and humane methods of euthanasia; and
   f. methods of reporting animal welfare issues or deficiencies in animal care and treatment.

2. The Surgery Training Module includes information regarding:
   a. proper pre-procedural and post-procedural care of animals;
   b. aseptic surgical methods and procedures; and
   c. proper use of anesthetics, analgesics, and tranquilizers.

3. The Field Research Training Module includes information regarding:
   a. guidelines and regulations governing field research;
   b. occupational health and safety issues associated with field research; and
   c. professional society guidelines for animals used in field research.

B. Hands-On Training

1. General - Before commencement of any animal-use activity, individuals are required to attend a general hands-on training session provided by UT Arlington's ACF Manager or their designee. General hands-on training sessions include information on animal handling, behavior, restraint, emergency procedures and first aid, PPE and supplies, reporting animal welfare concerns, and ACF Standard Operating Procedures. Completion of hands-on training is documented by the ACF Manager.

2. Specific Procedures – During review of animal-use activities, the IACUC may request training in specific procedures to ensure proficiency of technique and minimization of animal pain and distress. The ACF Manager or AV will facilitate this training and monitor proficiency. Completion of this training is documented by the ACF Manager.

C. As determined by the Environmental Health & Safety Office (EH&S) and based on risk assessment of the animal-use activity, individuals may be required to complete Hazard Communication and Waste Management – Academic, Bloodborne Pathogens for

Laboratory Research Personnel, Biosafety Level 2 (BSL-2), Respiratory Protection, Laser Safety, Radiation Awareness, and/or Radiation Producing Machine (Xray). Trainings listed in this section are provided and documented by EH&S.

D. Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Training – OHS Training is incorporated into both the online and hands-on training. It includes information regarding UTA's OHS Certification Program, physical hazards, allergens, zoonoses, common protective procedures for minimizing associated risks, and how to report medical concerns and injuries. Completion of this training is documented by the Office of Regulatory Services.

E. UTA Workshops/Presentations – The Office of Regulatory Services offers in-depth training presentations in a variety of areas including: *the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (the Guide), the Animal Welfare Act and Animal Welfare Regulations*, PHS Policy, Institutional IACUC Policy/Procedures, animal use protocol requirements, the IACUC research review and approval process, and ethical animal research. PIs and protocol personnel may be invited to attend these presentations voluntarily, or they may be required at the discretion of the IACUC.

F. Offsite Seminars/Workshops – Occasionally, external training opportunities may be made available to researchers or required at the discretion of the IACUC.

G. IACUC Member Training – IACUC members are provided with copies of the PHS Policy, *the Guide, the Animal Welfare Act and Animal Welfare Regulations*, the OLAW/ARENA IACUC Guidebook and a copy of UTA's approved Animal Welfare Assurance. They are also provided orientation, background materials, and resources by the Office of Regulatory Services. IACUC members are required to complete the online training modules. Refresher training is provided at IACUC meetings by means of guest speakers or discussion on a variety of topics such as power analysis and appropriate experimental design. IACUC members are also routinely provided opportunities to attend training seminars or conferences.

Relevant IACUC Policies/Procedures:

[IACUC Responsibilities](#)
[IACUC Review Procedures](#)
[Post-Approval Monitoring](#)
[Reporting and Processing Animal Care and Use Concerns and Incidents](#)
[Reporting Adverse Events](#)
[Occupational Health and Safety](#)