

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS	IDENTIFICATION AR II-4.0-3	PAGE 1
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INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE POLICY AND COMMITTEE

I. Policy

The University recognizes the importance of the use of animals in its research and teaching programs. Animals are vital both for understanding basic biological processes and in developing diagnostic, therapeutic, and preventive approaches for human and animal diseases. It is the policy of the University that all animals used in teaching and research must be provided humane care and treatment. The University is committed to maintaining the highest possible standards for the care and use of animals in research and teaching.

II. Federal Guidelines and Regulations

It is University policy that all procedures and practices for the procurement, housing, care, and use of animals conform to the Principles for the Utilization and Care of Vertebrate Animals Used in Testing, Research, and Training, the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, and all regulations issued by the United States Department of Agriculture implementing the Animal Welfare Act (P.L. 89-544) as amended. The policy applies to all animal-related research, teaching, and testing regardless of the funding source.

III. Responsibilities

A. Institutional Official (IO)

The President shall appoint an Institutional Official (IO) who shall be responsible for assuring compliance with the University's animal care policies and all governmental regulations. The IO is also responsible for the development and maintenance of institutional records and submission of reports relating to the University's animal care and use program.

B. The Division of Laboratory Animal Resources (DLAR)

The Division of Laboratory Animal Resources (DLAR) is responsible for obtaining all laboratory animals and for providing humane care and facilities, plus proper veterinary care and preventive medicine, for laboratory animals required for research and instruction. A variety of other support services is available to assist researchers as well.

C. The Office of Research Integrity (ORI)

The Office of Research Integrity oversees University-wide compliance with all applicable governmental laws, rules, regulations, and guidelines relating to the use of animals in research and teaching activities. This office serves the University as a resource on issues and questions related to animal care and use and coordinates the educational programs and occupational health programs for faculty, staff, and students involved with animals in their research and instructional activities.

D. The University Veterinarian

The University Veterinarian monitors all animal-related activities at the University and serves to inform, coordinate, and facilitate interaction among the DLAR, the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), faculty, and staff. The University Veterinarian serves as executive secretary of the IACUC.

IV. Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

A. IACUC Responsibilities

1. The University has established an IACUC to assure responsible review of animal use, facilities, and treatment procedures, as well as animal-related research and teaching practices. The IACUC oversees the procurement, housing, humane and appropriate care, use, and proper disposition of animals involved in the teaching and research activities of all units within the University. The IACUC shall carry out all of those duties specifically assigned to it by governmental regulations and policies.

2. In addition to the above-noted mandated duties, which are perceived as minimum standards, the IACUC shall review all aspects of the University's animal programs including short-term and long-term goals and the University's regulations and procedures pertaining to animal care and use. Appropriate recommendations shall be made to the IO.

B. IACUC Membership

1. The IACUC reports to the IO who serves as the President's representative charged with the responsibility for oversight of the University's animal care and use program. Both regular and non-voting ex officio members of the IACUC are appointed by the IO. The IO may establish multiple IACUCs as appropriate and necessary.

2. The IACUC shall be comprised of an Executive Committee and subcommittees to represent different types of animal care facilities.

3. No more than three persons from the same administrative unit shall be members of the IACUC.

4. The IACUC shall be composed of a minimum of five members. These shall include, but not be limited to, the chair, the University Veterinarian, the Director of the Division of Laboratory Animal Resources or designee, a member whose primary concerns are in a non-scientific area, and an individual who is not affiliated with the University other than as a member of the IACUC and who is not a member of the immediate family of a person affiliated with the University. At least one of the committee members shall be a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine with training and experience in laboratory science and medicine, and one shall be a practicing scientist experienced in research involving animals.

C. IACUC Executive Committee and Subcommittees

1. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee monitors and reviews all ongoing activities for continuing compliance with all applicable requirements concerning humane care, use, and treatment of animals at the University and advises and assists the IACUC relative to accomplishing IACUC responsibilities.

2. Subcommittees

(a) The subcommittees shall function to help the IACUC meet its responsibilities to comply with all requirements of proper animal care and use in their respective areas.

(b) The subcommittees shall conduct protocol reviews, assist investigators to incorporate modifications required for protocol approval, conduct inspections of facilities, and review programs in their respective areas.

(c) In addition to its responsibilities held in common with the other subcommittees, the subcommittee which oversees the use of all agricultural animals used in research and teaching shall be in compliance with the Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Agricultural Research and Teaching. The Dean of the College of Agriculture shall be the principal administrator responsible for all animals used in the College's program.

References:

- Health Research Extension Act (HREA), Public Law 99-158, 1985, "Animals in Research"
- US Government Principles for the Utilization and Care of Vertebrate Animals Used in Testing, Research, and Training
- Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals

- National Research Council: The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
- US Department of Agriculture regulations and Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals
- Animal Welfare Act
- US Code of Federal Regulations: 9 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 1 and 2 (United States Department of Agriculture regulations implementing the Animal Welfare Act)