



7.4.3 Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

Chapter 7 - Research and Sponsored Programs	Original Effective Date: June 2000
Section: 7.4 Institutional Program for the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals	Date Last Reviewed: June 2021
Responsible Entity: Vice President for Research	Date Last Revised: June 2021

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to outline the charge of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) to assure animal research conducted at the University is in compliance with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal Welfare Act and Regulations, Public Health Service (PHS) Policy, the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Guide) and Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) International standards.

II. Scope

This Policy applies institution-wide to all UT Health San Antonio (University) faculty, staff, and/or students conducting animal research activities, inclusive of the School of Medicine, the Dental School, the School of Nursing, the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, the School of Health Professions, centers, and organized research units.

III. Policy

The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) is a faculty oversight committee appointed by the President to ensure that all programs concerning the care and use of laboratory animals at UT Health San Antonio are in compliance with federal and University rules and regulations.

A. Responsibilities

As stated in the charge to the IACUC, the IACUC is responsible for:

1. Assuring that the use of animals in research, teaching, and/or education is in accordance with institutional and federal guidelines.
2. Assisting the faculty whose research endeavors involve animals.
3. Reviewing the programs for the care and treatment of animals in all areas of the University at least semiannually to assess compliance with institutional and federal standards.

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4. Reviewing all protocols advocating the use of animals in research, training, or education as needed, but at least annually.
5. Reviewing and advising on the occupational health program and the training program as needed, but at least on a semi-annual basis.

B. Federal Regulations

Federal regulations concerning the use of animals in research and education require that approval to conduct such activities be given by the IACUC regardless of funding before the work can commence. All protocols for the use of animals must be reviewed by the IACUC annually.

IV. Definitions

There are no defined terms used in this Policy.

V. Related References

Institutional Animal Care and Use Program (IACUC)

[IACUC Review Procedures](#)

VI. Review and Approval History

- A. The approving authority of this policy is the University Executive Committee.
- B. The review frequency cycle is set for three years following the last review date, a time period that is not mandated by regulatory, accreditation, or other authority.

Effective Date	Action Taken	Approved By	Date Approved
06/2000	Policy Origination		
08/2009	Policy Revision		
06/2021	Policy Revision/discretionary edits		