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UNMC Website: IACUC Education and Training

University of Nebraska Medical Center Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

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UNMC > IACUC > Education & Training

Education & Training

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Training Requirements for Animal Users

UNMC and UNO are required by Federal Regulations to provide training for all personnel involved in the use and/or care of live vertebrate animals in research, testing and teaching.



Specifically, the Public Health Service (PHS) Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (amended September 1986) in response to the amended Animal Welfare Act (Health Research Extension Act of 1985, Public Law 99-158) requires the institution to ensure that "training or instruction is available in the humane practice of animal care and use, as well as training or instruction in research and testing methods that minimize the number of animals required to obtain valid results and minimize animal distress."

USDA Regulations [9 CFR 2:32 Federal Register 54 (168) Thursday, August 31, 1989] require the institution to make available training in

1. Humane methods of animal maintenance and experimentation, including:
 - The basic needs of each species of animal;
 - Proper handling and care for the various species of animals used by the facility;
 - Proper pre-procedural and post-procedural care of animals; and
 - Aseptic surgical methods and procedures;
2. The concept, availability, and use of research or testing methods that limit the use of animals or minimize animal distress;
3. Proper use of anesthetics, analgesics, and tranquilizers for any species of animals used by the facility;
4. Methods whereby deficiencies in animal care and treatment are reported, including deficiencies in animal care and treatment reported by any employee of the facility.
5. Utilization of services (e.g., National Agricultural Library, National Library of Medicine) available to provide information:
 - on appropriate methods of animal care and use;
 - on alternatives to the use of live animals in research;
 - that could prevent unintended and unnecessary duplication of research involving animals; and
 - regarding the intent and requirements of the Act.

In order to comply with the aforementioned Federal requirements, a training program has been established which consists of the IACUC Basics Training, Comparative Medicine has additional training requirements.

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