

Care and Use of Vertebrate Animals in Research and Education

Responsible Executive: Vice President for Research Responsible Office: Office of Research Issued: April 19, 2023

1. INTRODUCTION

The University of Notre Dame is committed to the humane care and use of vertebrate animals in research and education, and encourages adherence with applicable laws, principles, standards, guidelines, and policies affecting such care and use.

2. POLICY STATEMENT

2.1. Institutional Animal Care and Use Program

The University of Notre Dame promotes humane care and use of vertebrate animals in research and education. To ensure that vertebrate animals are treated humanely, the University shall appoint an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee and an Attending Veterinarian.

2.1.1. Institutional Official

The Vice President for Research is designated by the President (as Chief Executive Officer) as the Institutional Official (IO) for the animal care and use program at the University of Notre Dame. The IO bears ultimate responsibility for the animal care and use program and ensuring compliance with all applicable legal, regulatory, and accreditation requirements.

2.1.2. Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

The University of Notre Dame shall, at the recommendation of the Vice President for Research, appoint an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). All proposed research and educational activities using live, vertebrate animals, regardless of funding status or the source of funding, must be reviewed by the IACUC,. The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee shall also advise the Vice President of Research on all aspects of the animal care and use program.

2.1.2.1. Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Approval

Research, training, and educational activities involving the use of live, vertebrate animals must receive approval from the IACUC prior to project initiation.

2.1.3. Veterinary Care

The Vice President for Research shall designate an Attending Veterinarian who is responsible for implementation of a veterinary care program. The Attending Veterinarian has oversight of the veterinary care and use of all animals under this policy, regardless of the location of the animal, source of research funding, or the status of the research project.

2.1.4. Coordination with Outside Sponsor, Oversight, and Accreditation Agencies

The Vice President for Research, or designee, will coordinate with any organizations providing funding, oversight, or accreditation to the animal care and use program, including but not limited to the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW), United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA APHIS), and the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC). Any reports to such external bodies, including periodic or due to adverse events, shall be made by the Vice President for Research or designee. Adverse event assessment may include review with the IACUC.

3. SCOPE

The Policy applies to all University faculty members (including part-time and visiting faculty), students, staff, and any other University employee or person associated with University (including postdoctoral scholars) who conduct research at, or on behalf of, the University.

4. POLICY ENFORCEMENT

Violations	It is an explicit violation to fail to meet the requirements of this policy in the conduct of research, training, or education using live, vertebrate		
	animals.		
Enforcement	The University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee will require any researcher suspected to have violated this policy to submit information about suspected violations, and may recommend disciplinary action in accordance with University codes of conduct, policies, or applicable laws. Recommended disciplinary actions may include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following: suspension or termination of research; confiscation of animals; and compelled destruction of data collected in research; 		
Reporting	Suspected violations may be reported to Notre Dame Research		
Violations	Compliance at compliance@nd.edu or 574-631-1461.		

5. CONTACTS

Subject	Office or Position	Telephone Number	Office Email or URL
Policy	Notre Dame Research	(574) 631-1461	compliance@nd.edu
Clarification	Compliance		
Web Address for this Policy			