

**University of Cincinnati  
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee**

## **Policy on Housing Animals in Laboratories**

### **Applicability**

This policy applies to all vertebrate species held in a satellite housing area at the University of Cincinnati. In accordance with PHS Policy and the USDA Animal Welfare Act Regulations, the IACUC defines satellite housing areas as:

- Any area in which USDA covered species (e.g. hamsters) are held over 12 hours.
- Any area in which non-USDA covered species (e.g. mice, rats, ectotherms) are held over 24 hours.

### **Regulatory Requirements**

The IACUC is required to inspect satellite housing areas at least every six months to monitor compliance with the requirements of the *The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* and Animal Welfare Act Regulations, if applicable. In addition, LAMS staff will monitor all satellite housing areas to ensure the adequacy veterinary care and husbandry.

Principal Investigators must ensure compliance with IACUC Policy #012A “Requirements for Mammalian Satellite Housing” or Policy #012B “Requirements for Ectotherms Satellite Housing”.

Environmental parameters and husbandry procedures must comply with the standards in the most current version of *The Guide for Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* and with LAMS standards for animal housing rooms.

### **Obtaining IACUC Approval**

- Submit a Satellite Housing Request (available at <http://researchcompliance.uc.edu/iacuc/>) with scientific justification to house animals outside of LAMS animal facilities
- The IACUC must inspect and approve the space before housing.
- The PI must ensure both IACUC and LAMS have unrestricted independent access to the area.
- A 24 hour temperature alarm system which alerts LAMS of temperature excursions is required for all satellite housing locations. LAMS must track trends regarding temperature and humidity changes.
- Windows are not preferred, but if present must be covered with an opaque material.
- A sanitizable shelf (e.g. plastic, stainless steel) must be used if more than one level of cages is desired; cages may not be stacked on top of another.
- A LAMS satellite housing log must be maintained in the satellite housing area. Logs must be maintained so long as the satellite housing area is approved and available for inspection.

The following signage is required:

- Approved Satellite Housing Request
- Signage should be posted inside the room and not in public areas.
- The primary room door must be locked when personnel are not present in the housing area.