

**University of Cincinnati
Animal Care and Use Program**

Animal Care and Use Program (ACUP) Training

The UC ACUP requires personnel working with live vertebrate animals to have the necessary knowledge and expertise for specific animal procedures and species approved in their IACUC protocol. Training should include but is not limited to occupational health and safety, ethics, legislation, resource availability, animal handling, surgical principles, euthanasia, and continuing education to reinforce training. (*Guide* p.15-17, AWA 2.32(a-c), PHS Policy IV.C.1.F). This policy does not apply to individuals entering animal facilities, but not working with animals (e.g. UC Maintenance, UCIT, external contractors, etc.).

Register for training using the [ACUP Training Request Form](#)

Required Initial Training (prior to addition to IACUC protocol)

- 1. IACUC Orientation (in-person)** - Introduction to the institution's animal care and use program including relevant legislation, guidelines, and policies. Specific focus on an understanding of individual roles and responsibilities.
- 2. IACUC Courses (online)**
 - a. Occupational Health and Safety Program for Animal Handlers
 - b. Working with the IACUC
 - c. Working with **Species*** in Research Settings
 - * Complete modules relating to all species listed on the IACUC protocol
- 3. LAMS Training (in-person)**
 - a. **Facility Orientation** – Tour of animal housing facility applicable to the location, husbandry and transportation procedures, personal protective equipment (PPE), animal health reporting and census.
 - b. **Species Skills/Hands-On Training** – Housing and sex identification, safe restraint/handling, injection methods, common health issues, euthanasia, and skills proficiency.

Required Supplementary Training (prior to designated procedures)

In addition to the IACUC requirements listed above, other training requirements that must be met, when applicable, include:

- 1. LAMS Hazard Training (in-person)** – **prior** to working with hazardous agents in a LAMS hazard containment room or other approved LAMS rooms.
- 2. Principles of Surgery (in-person)** – **prior** to assisting with or performing survival and/or non-survival surgery. Topics include animal preparation, aseptic technique, anesthesia, pain recognition and analgesia, instrument selection and handling, suture selection, tissue handling, pre- and post-operative care and monitoring.
- 3. Animal Ordering (online)** – **prior** to purchasing animals for use on an approved protocol. Includes basic financial principles and instructions for submitting animal orders.

Optional Supplementary Training

Surgical and Experimental Procedures - training provided upon request; contact animaltraining@uc.edu to schedule. Examples of trainings offered include:

- castration, vasectomy, ovariectomy, splenectomy, and nephrectomy
- renal capsular implantation, osmotic mini-pump implantation (SC/IP)
- mammary fat pad injections, intracardiac injections and cardiocentesis
- ischemia/reperfusion models (e.g. kidney, liver)
- use of mechanical restraint devices
- animal identification, nail trimming, drug/agent administration (IM/IV/oral gavage)
- venipuncture (submandibular, saphenous, tail clip/lacerations)
- retro-orbital injections/blood collections under anesthesia

Exceptions to Required Training

1. Teaching protocols or protocols with a teaching component do not require class students to be added to the IACUC protocol or complete the full requirements of this training policy. Enrollment in the Occupational Health and Safety Program is minimally required. Students must remain under direct supervision of an animal user approved on the protocol while working with animals.
2. Exceptions to this policy will be determined on a case-by-case basis and must be submitted to and approved by the IACUC Office and LAMS veterinarian prior to any contact with animals. Exception requests must be submitted via email at animaltraining@uc.edu.
 - a. Examples of types of exceptions
 - i. Enrollment in Occupational Health and Safety Program only
 - ii. IACUC online courses only
 - b. Examples of personnel that may be granted exceptions
 - i. Visiting scholars < 14 days
 - ii. Consultants/trainers
 - iii. Visiting UC, UCHealth and affiliate physicians for up to 3 procedural events/sessions (e.g. surgeries or batch surgery, wetlabs)
 - iv. Vendors/contractors

Required Continuing Education (every 3 years)

1. **IACUC Courses (online)**
 - a. Occupational Health and Safety Program for Animal Handlers
 - b. Working with the IACUC

Non-Compliance

If personnel do not renew the required continuing education by the expiration date, the IACUC or designee will give a final notice to affected personnel and the principal investigator (PI) that training must be renewed/completed within 10 business days.

If Training Remains Incomplete/Expired:

1. Access to LAMS facilities may be revoked.
2. Personnel may be administratively removed from the protocol, requiring them to cease working with animals.
 - a. Once training is completed, the PI/PI proxy can add the individual to the IACUC protocol by submitting an amendment in the Research Administration Portal (RAP).
3. IACUC amendment or triennial review approvals may be delayed.
4. PIs with expired training will be requested to provide a corrective action plan to the IACUC.
5. Recurrent violations of expired training by the same lab will require the PI to submit a corrective action plan to the IACUC.