



Illinois Animal Care and Use Occupational Health and Safety Policy

Purpose: The *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* states that “An occupational health and safety program must be part of the overall animal care and use program.” The Public Health Service Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare considers this an institutional responsibility. Therefore, to ensure a safe and healthy work environment for the research community at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign Campus, the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research has established a mandatory Animal Care and Use Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Program for all personnel having direct or indirect contact with research or teaching animals.

The goal of the OHS Program is to eliminate or control hazards by identifying risks, implementing safety controls and providing training to prevent adverse health effects due to animal contact. To accomplish this goal all persons with direct or indirect contact with research or teaching animals must enroll in the OHS Program. Enrollment consists of completion of an animal exposure risk assessment form and a health and safety online training module. A Health Screening Questionnaire is also available for completion by the participant. The information submitted by the participant is used by the OHS staff to identify the need for personal protective equipment, immunizations, training, and enrollment in other campus programs such as hearing conservation or respiratory protection.

Policy: Enrollment in the Animal Care and Use Occupational Health and Safety Program consists of completion of the Risk Assessment Form and the OHS Online Training Module and is required for the following groups:

- Faculty, staff and students listed as project personnel on approved animal care and use protocols
- Veterinarians and animal care staff responsible for the care of research and teaching animals
- Service workers entering animal facilities to perform routine maintenance
- Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee members
- Student employees with animal contact
- Other University staff needing access into animal facilities such as campus safety professionals

Reference:

- *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* (1996) Institute for Laboratory Animal Research (ILAR). The National Academies Press.