

General policies and statements regarding the institutional animal care and use at FHSU

Revised and adopted by the IACUC on January 29, 2013

1. Definition

- a. Animal use at FHSU is defined as any activities involving live vertebrate animals conducted by qualified FHSU personnel at facilities on the FHSU campus as well outside of FHSU campus.
- b. Live animal use at FHSU must be associated or be a part of academic functions of the university. These only include:
 - i. Instructional
 - ii. Scholarship/research
 - iii. Demonstration/exhibition

Activities that do not meet one of these criteria are considered non-essential to the function of the university and therefore are not permitted.

2. Conduct/supervision of animal care and use

- a. Live animal use at FHSU must be conducted either directly by or under supervision of FHSU faculty and staff.
- b. Personnel responsible for actual animal use or supervising animal use at FHSU must have appropriate qualifications in animal use and care and must be able to demonstrate appropriate expertise working with the species of animals that are intended to be used. A minimum of one of the qualifications described below is required. Examples of qualification criteria include:
 - i. Degree from accredited institution in the appropriate field of study involving the use and care of animal
 - ii. Peer-reviewed publications
 - iii. Presentation abstracts
 - iv. Instructional experience
 - v. Professional experience (5 years or longer).
- c. Appropriate institutional animal care and use committee (IACUC) protocol forms must be filed by the qualified individual (see section 2-b) prior to the initiation of animal use at FHSU. Students at FHSU in any capacity are not allowed to file IACUC protocol on their own behalf. Students' supervisors with appropriate qualifications must file IACUC protocols.
- d. No activities involving animal use shall be initiated until the IACUC protocol has been reviewed and approved by the IACUC.
- e. Use of the species of animals that require registration or licensing with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) must have appropriate documents from the USDA on file with the OSSP or attached to the IACUC form prior to the IACUC form review and approval.
- f. Any facilities used for activities involving the use of the species of animals that require registration/licensing with the USDA must be inspected by IACUC members, a licensed veterinarian, and USDA inspectors prior to the initiation of the activity.
- g. Any activities involving the use of animals at the FHSU campus or affiliated facilities must be conducted at designated facilities approved by the IACUC and the university administration.
- h. Construction of new facilities intended for animal use, as well as remodeling the existing facilities for animal use, must meet or exceed guidelines set by the USDA Animal Welfare Act and must be approved by the university administration and the IACUC

3. Compliance

- a. All FHSU personnel involved in animal use and supervision of animal use must comply with all the policies and procedures set forth by the FHSU IACUC, USDA Animal Welfare Acts, and public health policies.
- b. Failure to comply to any or all of the policy will result in following
 - i. Suspension/termination of the activity
 - ii. Removal of animals from the facility
 - iii. Suspension of funding