



**Animal Care and Use Program**

**SOP: Determining When IACUC Approval is Required**

<b>Objective</b>	To describe activities that require IACUC oversight and/or an IACUC-approved protocol
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**Introduction**

The IACUC is responsible for assessment and oversight of the institution’s animal care and use program, which includes all activities conducted by and at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte that have a direct impact on the well-being of animals. The IACUC expects that for all animal activities at UNC Charlotte, animal welfare is a primary focus. In addition, the impact to human health must be considered when interacting with animals. However, not all animal activities are regulated in the same manner. Accordingly, this policy outlines various animal activities and the process by which the IACUC oversees these activities.

**Activities that require oversight and IACUC approval**

1. A course using vertebrate animals in teaching.
2. Any research, research training, experimentation, biological testing, and related activities involving live vertebrate animals and conducted at this Institution, or at another institution as a consequence of the sub-granting or subcontracting of a Public Health Service (PHS) conducted or supported activity by this Institution.
3. Any research involving vertebrate animal cadavers from an extramural (non-UNC Charlotte) source.
4. Research and teaching activities using tissues derived from vertebrate animals (dead or alive).
5. Field studies involving trapping, capturing, physical/chemical restraint, and/or invasive procedures.

**Activities that DO NOT require oversight and IACUC approval**

1. Activities involving field studies, provided the studies are only observational in nature and do not involve trapping, capturing, physical/chemical restraint, and/or invasive procedures.
2. Activities involving retrieval or use of animal-related data from records.
3. Activities involving invertebrate species.
4. Studies that use fertilized shell eggs or fertilized embryos
  - a. Provided the fertilized eggs/embryos are destroyed and not allowed to hatch and/or develop to a viable stage; and
  - b. The activity does not involve the care and use of the adult females which laid or was the source of the eggs/embryos.

**References**

*PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* (PHS Policy II)  
*Animal Welfare Act Regulations* (AWAR 1.1 and 2.31)

**Revision History**

Approved August 31, 2015

Re-approved June 18, 2018

Revised August 24, 2020; July 26, 2021

Administrative changes September 17, 2022