

University at Buffalo Animal Care and Use Program

Policy on Accepting IACUC Reviews from Other Institutions

Introduction

In the conduct of scientific research, there are situations in which investigators from the University at Buffalo will form collaborative partnerships with investigators at other institutions. With regards to the use of animals in research, both OLAW and the USDA agree that dual review of a research project and dual evaluation of an animal care program or facility by more than one recognized Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) is not required.

Policy

This policy defines when the University at Buffalo IACUC will accept another institution's IACUC approval or require submission of a project for review and approval by the University's IACUC.

For work performed at the University of Buffalo with funding administered through another institution:

The University at Buffalo IACUC will review and approve all animal care and use activities performed in University-owned or leased facilities and all activities involving University-owned animals.

This work must be associated with a University at Buffalo faculty member who agrees to serve as Principal Investigator on a University protocol which describes the work. The protocol and any amendments to the protocol must be submitted for review and approved by the University IACUC prior to initiation of work.

All personnel involved in animal work performed at the University at Buffalo must comply with all IACUC and CM-LAF policies and procedures.

For work performed at another institution with funding administered through the University at Buffalo:

The University at Buffalo IACUC will accept another institution's IACUC review and approval of a protocol and any amendments to the protocol if:

- 1) The other institution has a current Public Health Service (PHS) approved Animal Welfare Assurance.
- 2) The other institution must hold a current Class R registration with the United States Department of Agriculture under the Animal Welfare Act, as a research facility (if USDA-covered species are involved).
- 3) The other institution is currently accredited by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC).

If the above requirements 1-3 are not met, the investigator will be required to submit a protocol to the University at Buffalo IACUC for review and approval. Note that submitting a protocol for work performed at an institution that does not have its own PHS Animal Welfare Assurance may require that the location(s) be added to the University at Buffalo's PHS Animal Welfare Assurance and that the University IACUC inspect, every six months, the performing institution's facilities where animals will be housed and/or taken for use during the course of the studies. Personnel involved in animal work must comply with all IACUC and CM-LAF policies and procedures.

If the above requirements 1-3 are met, the University at Buffalo IACUC may administratively accept the other institution's approval of a protocol/amendment.

The University at Buffalo IACUC must have on file a formal written understanding (e.g. memorandum of understanding) with the other institution, addressing responsibilities for animal care and use, animal ownership, and IACUC review and oversight.

The University IACUC office will maintain the following documentation on the protocol:

- 1) A copy of the approved protocol/amendment.
- 2) A copy of the approval letter for the protocol/amendment.
- 3) A copy of the annual protocol renewal approval (if applicable).
- 4) A copy of any funding proposal in support of the work.
- 5) Copies of any reports which include information about significant issues related to the protocol, including any found during semi-annual inspections.
- 6) A copy of the memorandum of understanding between institutions.

Protocols/amendments reviewed and approved by the other institution's IACUC may be subject to grant congruency checks by the University of Buffalo IACUC.

Protocols/amendments reviewed and approved by the other institution's IACUC do not absolve a Principal Investigator from obtaining University at Buffalo Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC), Radiation Safety Committee (RSC), or Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval, if required.