



University of Michigan Policy On Learning Activities Involving Live Vertebrate Animals

All learning activities (teaching or demonstration activities) involving live vertebrate animals at the University of Michigan (U-M) must be approved by the Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee (IACUC) in an animal use protocol prior to initiation. Use of animals in teaching or demonstration activities must be done in compliance with U-M policies and guidelines, the federal *Animal Welfare Act*, the Public Health Service (PHS) *Policy*, and the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*.

The Principal Investigator (PI) is responsible for ensuring that all participants (instructors, teaching assistants, and students) using live vertebrate animals are appropriately listed or identified on the applicable animal use protocol. The PI must also ensure that all participants are appropriately trained, informed of applicable regulatory requirements, and apprised of any hazards and/or zoonotic disease risks involved with the activity.

Definitions

Students and demonstration participants are categorized based on level of involvement with the animals:

- **Observers:** May be in close proximity to animals during a learning activity but do not handle the animals or perform any procedures.
- **Short-Term Participants/Students:** Those participating in a learning activity involving 30 or fewer consecutive days (1 month) of animal use or 15 or fewer total days of animal use over a six-month period.
- **Long-Term Participants/Students:** Those participating in a learning activity involving more than 30 consecutive days (1 month) of animal use or more than 15 total days of animal use over a six-month period.
- **Minors:** Anyone under the age of 18.

Specific Requirements*

Requirements for mandatory training and enrollment in the Occupational Safety and Environmental Health (OSEH) Animal Handler Program are based on type of participant and procedures performed.

Observers:

- Not required to be listed on the animal use protocol.
- Not required to be enrolled in the OSEH Animal Handler Program.
- Not required to undergo mandatory training.
- Must be escorted at all times by a member of the Unit for Laboratory Animal Medicine (ULAM), the PI, or a member of the PI's staff who is listed on the protocol.

Short-Term Participants/Students:

- Not required to be listed on the animal use protocol.
- PI must send a list of participant names to the Animal Care & Use Office within 1-2 weeks of class/activity start date. The list must contain the following information about each participant:
 - U-M affiliated: Full name, unique name, and U-M ID number.



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- Non-U-M affiliated: Full name, title, and name of affiliated institution.
- Not required to be enrolled in the OSEH Animal Handler Program.
- Must receive information on occupational health risks (e.g., zoonoses) and required PPE.
- Must undergo a training session/orientation administered either by the PI or ULAM Training Core staff.
- Must work under the direct supervision of ULAM, the PI, or an experienced member of the PI's lab who is listed on the protocol and is proficient in the applicable procedures.

Long-Term Participants/Students:

- Must be listed on the animal use protocol.
- Must be enrolled in the OSEH Animal Handler Program.
- Must undergo mandatory training in accordance with the *U-M Policy for Education and Training of Animal Care and Use Personnel*.
- Must work under the direct supervision of ULAM, the PI, or an experienced member of the PI's lab who is listed on the protocol and is proficient in the applicable procedures.

Minors:

- PI must comply with the U-M Standard Practice Guide (SPG) *Policy on Minors Involved in University-Sponsored Programs or Programs Held in University Facilities* and the OSEH *Minors in Research Laboratories* policy.
- Cannot perform major procedures.
- Cannot work with hazards.
- Must work under the direct supervision of ULAM, the PI, or an experienced member of the PI's lab who is listed on the protocol and is proficient in the applicable procedures.

Related Documents

- [U-M Policy for Education and Training of Animal Care and Use Personnel](#)
- U-M Standard Practice Guide (SPG) [Policy on Minors Involved in University-Sponsored Programs or Programs Held in University Facilities](#)
- OSEH [Minors in Research Operations](#) Policy

*Any changes or modifications from the specific requirements will require written justification and subsequent permission of the Deputy Institutional Official.