

IACUC Guidelines on Public Access to Animal Resource Center Facilities at UWM

Last Reviewed: 4/2022

Revision History: 4/2019, 4/2022

Under Wisconsin law a publicly owned facility is not automatically accessible to any member of the public upon demand. Wisconsin Laws. UWS 18.06(6) provides:

Limited Entrance. The chief administrative officer may by posting the appropriate signs, limit or prohibit entrance to university lands, or portions thereof, in order to maintain or preserve an instruction or research area.

In order to protect the health and well being of all animals housed in UWM animal facilities and the ongoing research activities, the UW-Milwaukee Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee has recommended the following policy on public access to the animal facilities:

The following individuals have unrestricted access to Animal Resource Center facilities:

IACUC members
Animal Resource Center Staff
UWM Principal Investigators with IACUC approved protocols (authorized users)
PI staff working on IACUC approved protocols who have received the required training
Pre-approved Facilities Services Staff
University Safety and Assurances Department

Individuals without unrestricted access as listed above must adhere to the following:

1. All tour requests must be made to the Animal Care Manager or Veterinarian. They will in turn notify the Principal Investigators (PIs). The request must state the reason for public access. Public Access will be granted for informational purposes only. The granting of public access requires the approval of all of the above parties. The request will be answered within a 2-week period.

3. The Animal Care Manager and Principal Investigator(s) must approve of the time of the public access.
4. All public access will be guided by an appropriate University representative, determined by the Animal Care Manager and/or the PIs.
5. Visitors are not allowed to handle animals. Visitors are not allowed to enter barrier rooms (e.g. quarantine rooms, SPF rooms.) Best practices at UWM state that visitors should allow 48 hours prior to entering the UWM animal facilities if they have been in another lab animal facility. If visitors have been in another facility within 48 hours and need to enter UWM animal facilities, they should consult with the veterinarian or lab manager.
6. Unauthorized electronic devices (including but not limited to, recording devices such as tape recorders, video recorders, cameras, cell phones, etc.) must be turned off in the facility. Visitors must get prior approval in order to use them.
7. Children under the age of 16 will not be permitted public access without adequate adult supervision.
8. The number of persons allowed public access at one time will be restricted based on the size of the facility and the nature of the visit.
9. All animal facility visitors must adhere to the Personal Protective Equipment Procedures. The Animal Care Manager may determine that additional Personal Protective Equipment is necessary-lab coat, booties and gloves-(e.g. visitor has been in another animal facility or has been exposed to other animals on a regular basis.)

The following amendments shall be added to the original Guidelines on Public Access to Animal Resource Center Facilities at UWM so that it applies to situations where authorized users are accompanied by one or more guests into the animal facilities.

Authorized Users:

PI's with approved IACUC protocols and their approved staff
 ARC Coordinator or Lab Manager
 Institutional Official

1. Any guests that accompany a PI or their staff into the animal facilities must be approved by the principal investigator with whom the visitor is affiliated.
2. Visitors accompanying a PI or their staff are prohibited from entering any animal rooms except those assigned to the authorized user. Best practices state that visitors should allow 48 hours prior to entering the lab animal facilities at UWM if they have been in another lab animal facility. If visitors have been in another facility within 48 hours and need to enter UWM animal facilities they should first consult with the Veterinarian or Lab Manager. All visitors will be required to review and sign the "Occupational Health Program for Visitors Requesting Access to the Animal Resource Center".

3. The ARC Coordinator, Lab Manager or Institutional Official should not bring visitors into barrier rooms (e.g. SPF or quarantine rooms). Visitors should only have access to rooms/labs that