

IACUC Required Training

Training

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The Animal Welfare Act regulations, the Public Health Service Policy and the “Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals” require all personnel caring for, treating or using animals be qualified to perform duties.

Training Opportunities at UWM

General training

Individuals handling animals

The Veterinarian or the Animal Care Manager will provide general training for all individuals handling animals. This is accomplished in individual or group sessions on an as needed basis. It is based on the manual “Guide for the Responsible Care and Use of Animals in Teaching and Research”. Successful completion of a multiple-choice exam based on this training is required to become “Certified” to handle animals. All individuals handling rodents view the appropriate video on bio-methodology. They also attend a hands-on training sessions to learn restraint techniques, how to perform injections, euthanasia techniques and other basic experimental techniques as needed. All individuals using fish will view the video on fish health management. All investigators are required to keep the “Training of Staff in Lab Animal Procedures” records up to date as they train their staff in specific procedures.

Individuals using animals in teaching classes or observing animals

There is a long and short version of a training handout entitled, “Use of Live Animals in Teaching Classes and Observational Field Studies”. All instructors and teaching assistants should be familiar with the long version. The short version should be incorporated into the class syllabus. The handout will refer individuals to the animal care program’s webpage for further information and to review the occupational health program. UWM personnel (instructors and persons conducting observational studies) are required to complete the training program described under number above. There is

a special on-line training quiz for individuals who are not employed by UWM but teach weekend courses involving animals at the UWM Field Station, entitled, "Use of Live Animals in Teaching/Observational Field Studies". Students in classes using animals will view the short version of the training handout and be informed about animal use and occupational health hazards by the course instructor.

Facilities training

This training is provided by the Animal Care Manager or Veterinarian on an as needed basis for all individuals who will use the campus animal facilities. The training covers location of supplies, telephones, fire exits, use of personal protective equipment, HVAC issues, location of SDS sheets and equipment use.

Surgery training

The Veterinarian will provide surgical and aseptic technique training. All individuals who perform rodent surgery are also assigned a canvas course to complete. The use of isoflurane vaporizers will be demonstrated on an as needed basis. The PI is required to complete the "Certification for Staff Training for Surgery" record once they have trained the surgeon in the particular surgery that they will be performing.

IACUC training

The Veterinarian provides general training for all new IACUC members. All the pertinent regulations are reviewed and the new members are enrolled in the Occupational Health Program. New members also take the IACUC CITI training program, "Essentials for IACUC members" found online. A training scenario will be presented at most IACUC meetings by the Veterinarian for continuing education. Members will also be kept up to date on any changes in the regulations or on items of interest to the IACUC by the Veterinarian. The IACUC has a special training meeting once a year to review the "PHS Policy on Humane Animal Care and Use" or other pertinent materials.

IACUC required Continuing Education

Continuing education is required of all animal users on an annual basis. The IACUC informs animal users of appropriate training materials that they can choose from to complete the continuing education requirement. The Veterinarian and Animal Care Manager circulate all relevant information from list-serves, websites, magazines and

books to the appropriate parties. They also attend professional meetings and seminars relating to the animal care program and circulate appropriate information they obtain from them.

Available Training Resources

A dedicated reference library has been established for the animal care program that provides a source of pertinent materials (including audio-visual aids) on many aspects of animal care and use. The animal care program also maintains an informative website that lists available training opportunities.