

## **POLICY REGARDING IACUC PROTOCOL SUBMISSION**

### **PURPOSE:**

The Liberty University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee requires that all research and teaching involving the use of vertebrate animals have an approved IACUC protocol. This policy outlines the process of applying for such approval.

### **POLICY:**

Approved protocols assure appropriate care and use of the animals, as well as the safety of the research personnel. The Liberty University IACUC reviews protocols to ensure compliance with all federal, state, and local laws. Any research or teaching project involving vertebrate animals must have approval prior to its starting, regardless of funding source.

Any proposed animal use must be consistent with the *Animal Welfare Act Regulations*, the *Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*, and the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (The Guide)* unless other justification has been provided and approved.

All necessary forms are available on the Liberty University IACUC website.

### **VETERINARY REVIEW**

All proposed studies are subject to pre-review by the University Veterinarian, [dmcguirt@liberty.edu](mailto:dmcguirt@liberty.edu).

### **POST APPROVAL**

Once approved, protocols will be valid for a period of three years. Approved IACUC protocols must be renewed every year, and will require resubmission if the study extends beyond the initial three-year period.

### **EXEMPTIONS**

Certain studies are exempt from needing an IACUC protocol. These include:

- Protocols involving the use of invertebrate animals.
- Cadaver use in non-AWA regulated animals that have not been manipulated for research prior to acquisition.
- Studies involving the use of animal tissues received from a slaughterhouse. (You must notify the IACUC of the possession of these animal tissues, per IACUC policy).
- Observational studies in which no direct contact or manipulation of the animal, its diet, or its environment is made.