

## **POLICY REGARDING PROCUREMENT OF LABORATORY ANIMALS**

### **PURPOSE:**

This policy is designed to provide uniform procedures for the procurement and purchasing of laboratory animals at Liberty University.

### **POLICY:**

The *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals—8<sup>th</sup> Edition* states:

“All animals must be acquired lawfully, and the receiving institution should ensure that all procedures involving animal procurement are conducted in a lawful manner. Before procuring animals, the principal investigator should confirm that there are sufficient facilities and expertise to house and manage the species being acquired. Procurement of animals should only be done upon receipt of IACUC approval.”

“The use of purpose-bred and preconditioned animals is therefore preferable when consistent with the research, teaching, and testing objectives. In general, animals used for scientific purposes should not be obtained from pet stores or pet distributors due to the unknown or uncontrolled background of animals from these sources and the potential for introducing health risks to personnel and other facility animals. Breeding colonies should be established based on need and managed according to principles of animal reduction such as cryopreservation for rodent stocks or strains.”

Whenever possible, acquire animals from one of the following approved vendors:

**TABLE I. LIBERTY UNIVERSITY APPROVED ANIMAL VENDOR LIST**

<b>Rats and Mice</b>	Harlan, Charles River, Taconic Farms, Jackson Labs, Hilltop Lab Animals
<b>Fish</b>	Carolina Biologicals

### **ANIMALS PROCURED FROM OTHER VENDORS**

Consult the IACUC prior to purchasing animals if any of the approved vendors are not available.

### **ANIMALS TRANSFERRED FROM OTHER INSTITUTIONS**

If you are receiving animals from another institution, or are a new PI transferring animals to LU, such animals may be subject to quarantine or holding prior to being permanently housed at the university. For more information, see the quarantine policy.

### **CONSIDERATIONS WHEN ORDERING**

The PI is responsible for determining appropriate delivery dates and ordering schedules. The PI must ensure that appropriate resources are available for receiving the animals on the designated delivery dates.

Orders should be placed using the request form on the IACUC website. For information on ordering, visit the animal ordering page on the IACUC website:

- <https://www.liberty.edu/graduate/iacuc/animal-ordering/>