



## **Training Requirements for Research Personnel**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to describe the training requirements for research personnel.

### **Responsibility**

The ACUC must ensure research personnel have the necessary knowledge and expertise for the specific animal procedures proposed and the species used. During protocol review, the ACUC evaluates personnel training. If training deficiencies are identified, or the protocol scope necessitates it, additional or specialized training, as mandated by the ACUC, must be completed prior to initiation or continuation of work.

### **Policy**

- A. Training of new laboratory personnel includes the following:
  - 1. Laboratory Animal Resources Orientation
  - 2. AALAS Learning Library modules:
    - a. Working with the IACUC
    - b. Occupational Health and Safety in the Care and Use of Research Animals
    - c. Pain Management in Laboratory Animals (*required for personnel on Category D and E protocols*)
      - i. Training requirement instituted on July 30, 2025
      - ii. Required for all protocol personnel on new and triennial rewrites submitted after August 15, 2025
      - iii. Required for all protocol personnel before approval of amendments requesting addition of painful/distress procedures
  - 3. Environmental Health and Safety training modules (*if indicated based on protocol content*)
    - a. Using Hazardous Agents in Research Animals
    - b. Anesthetic Gas Safety
    - c. Biological Safety for Researchers
- B. Training of new field research personnel includes the following:
  - 1. AALAS Learning Library module:
    - a. Working with the IACUC
  - 2. Environmental Health and Safety training module:
    - a. Safety in the Field
  - 3. Documentation of boat/dive safety training for personnel working on marine vessels
- C. Triennial refresher training for laboratory and field research personnel:
  - 1. AALAS Learning Library module:
    - a. Working with the IACUC

2. Other Refresher Training: Refresher topics may include, but will not be limited to, common compliance issues, hazard safety, and new Laboratory Animal Resources and ACUC guidelines and procedures.
3. Personnel will be administratively removed from the AUP and their access to FSU vivaria will be revoked if refresher training is not completed before the expiration date. To prevent access restrictions, the ACUC will notify personnel at least one month in advance of the upcoming training expiration, allowing sufficient time to complete the required refresher training.

D. Other training opportunities for research personnel

1. Regularly scheduled wet-labs conducted by Laboratory Animal Resources.
2. Access to other web-based resources, including but not limited to the AALAS Learning Library.
3. Distribution and discussion of training materials during Laboratory Animal Resources rounds, ACUC readiness rounds, and ACUC semi-annual laboratory inspections.
4. Laboratory Animal Resources Partner Certification Program.
5. Individualized training upon request.

NOTE: In addition to the training requirements identified above, laboratory and field research personnel must participate in the institution's occupational health program prior to initiating animal work.

**ACUC Approved: August 29, 2018**

**ACUC Reviewed: October 27, 2021**

**ACUC Revised: July 30, 2025**