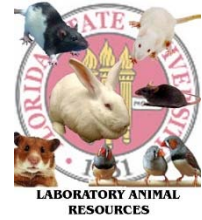




# Using Animals In Research or Teaching at Florida State University



**Welcome!** Florida State University is committed to providing the highest care for, as well as responsible use of, animals in research, teaching, and testing. Any research, teaching or testing involving vertebrate animals by FSU faculty, staff or students must comply with all applicable laws, regulations, policies and guidelines. This covers both funded (internal and external) and un-funded research as well as class, thesis, dissertation, field work, special projects and collaborations with non-FSU researchers.

Oversight of animal use in teaching and research is required by Congress through the Animal Welfare Act and the Public Health Service Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. In addition there are many other federal and state regulations requiring compliance when using animals or animal tissue. University policies and guidelines are developed to maintain compliance with the various rules, regulations and guidelines. A brochure, [\*What Investigators Need to Know About the Use of Animals\*](#), provides a succinct resource for investigators to quickly grasp the main expectations and requirements when using animals in research supported by the federal government. Oversight of compliance at FSU is the responsibility of the FSU Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC). Facilitating the use of animals in research and teaching at FSU is the responsibility of the Department of Laboratory Animal Resources (LAR).

Given the complex nature of the university and research environment, the ACUC and LAR recommend that you begin the approval process and research set up before or shortly after you arrive at FSU. We understand that investigators require research space, animal housing space, regulatory approvals, and funding to conduct animal research. Both the ACUC and LAR will work with you to obtain approval as well as animal housing and research space in order for you to begin your animal research. To get started, contact Laboratory Animal Resources at 644-4262. Personnel are available to assist with protocol preparation and pre-review, animal housing and research space procurement, approvals for interinstitutional collaborations and a variety of other important aspects of animal use. Please keep in mind that no work with animals (research or teaching) may be performed without prior ACUC approval. Also note that the approval process can take 1-3 months (depending upon the project's complexity) and that animal housing/research space must be available before work can begin.

If your work will require the use of pharmaceutical agents or controlled substances, contact FSU EH&S Laboratory Safety at 644-8916. For further information check out the [Researcher FAQs](#) on Laboratory Safety.

For more information regarding the use of animals in research or teaching:  
Animal Care and Use Committee - <https://www.research.fsu.edu/research-offices/acuc/>  
Laboratory Animal Resources - 644-4262