

Institutional Animal Care & Use Program - UTEP	
Title: Conflicts of Interest for IACUC Purposes	
Policy#: 019	Date in Effect: 27 March 2015
Version #: B	Rev Date: 26 May 2020
In Effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rescinded <input type="checkbox"/>	Date Rescinded:

A) RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of all personnel using animals at UTEP to abide by this policy.

B) APPLICATION

All investigators, consultants, and/or IACUC members are required to disclose any conflicts of interest to the UTEP IACUC office.

C) REGULATORY GUIDANCE:

Both the Animal Welfare Act Regulations and Public Health Service Policy state that no IACUC member “may participate in the IACUC review or approval of an activity in which that member has a conflicting interest, (e.g. is personally involved in the activity) except to provide information requested by the IACUC.”

D) DEFINITIONS

An investigator or IACUC member is said to have a conflict of interest whenever that person, his or her spouse, or dependent child falls under any of the following conditions:

1. Is an investigator or sub-investigator on the protocol (IACUC members only, not applicable to PI's).
2. Has entered into a financial arrangement with the sponsor or agent of the sponsor, whereby the outcome of the study could influence the value of the economic interest.
3. Acts as an officer or a director of the sponsor or an agent of the sponsor.
4. Has an equity interest in the sponsor of \$10,000 or greater or 5% or greater of the equity sponsor.
5. Has received payments or other incentives from any sponsor that when aggregated for the investigator or member, spouse and dependent children, total of \$10,000 or greater.

6. Has identified him or herself for any other reason as having a conflict of interest.

Other possible examples of conflict of interest include cases where:

1. A member is involved in a potentially competing research program;
2. Access to funding or intellectual information may provide an unfair competitive advantage;
3. A member's personal biases may interfere with his or her impartial judgment

E) PROCEDURES

If the investigator submitting a protocol believes that an IACUC member has a potential conflict, the investigator may request that the member be excluded. The Chair (or in his/her absence, the Vice-Chair) will present the declared conflict and the Committee will determine whether a conflict exists. Should an IACUC member declare involvement in any way in a research protocol under review by the IACUC, or state a conflict of interest with the research protocol, then the member(s):

1. May remain in the meeting room to provide information requested by the IACUC;
2. Must leave the meeting room for discussion and voting; and
3. Is (are) not counted towards quorum for the period of their absence.