



# Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

## Who We Are

The **Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)**, part of **Research & Innovation (R&I)**, reviews research involving live vertebrate animals to ensure humane treatment and the ethical, scientifically valid use of animals in research. The committee also conducts facility inspections, monitors regulatory compliance, and collaborates with researchers to promote excellence while upholding the highest standards of animal care and ethics.

## Tips for a Smoother IACUC Review

### 1. **Contact Us Early**

- The **IACUC** team works with investigators daily and can help you prepare clear protocols. We can advise on anesthesia and analgesia, monitoring parameters, study-related endpoints, and navigating the electronic protocol system.

### 2. **Write in Plain Language**

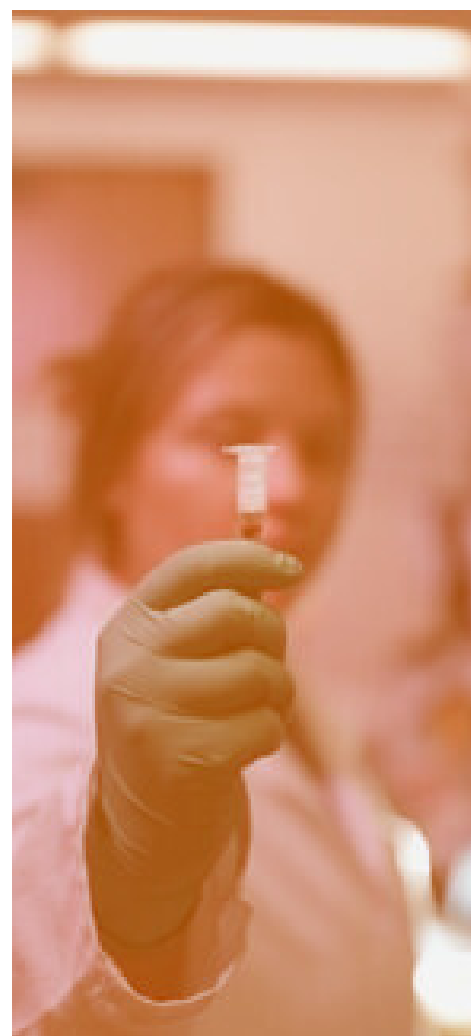
- **IACUC** protocols are reviewed by faculty scientists, veterinarians, and non-scientists. Avoid abbreviations and technical jargon. Clear, accessible writing helps reviewers understand your procedures, regardless of their background.

### 3. **Account for Animal Numbers and Justify Them**

- List all animals you plan to use, including those bred but not used. Specify groups, number per group, and justify how you determined sample size.

### 4. **Provide Full Details of Procedures**

- Describe all procedures in detail, from start to finish, as if preparing a standard operating procedure. Include:
  - Potential side effects or adverse outcomes.
  - How animals will be monitored for pain or distress.
  - Criteria for humane endpoints (removal from study or euthanasia).



## Take the Next Step

Clear communication, complete details, and early consultation with the **IACUC** will help your protocol move through the review process smoothly and without delay.

## Contact Us

iacuc@utep.edu | research.utep.edu