



Laboratory Animal Resources Center (LARC)

Who We Are

The **Laboratory Animal Resources Center (LARC)**, part of **Research & Innovation (R&I)**, supports faculty, staff, and students with veterinary and personnel training in laboratory animal technology and medicine. **LARC** promotes humane animal care and regulatory compliance under the Animal Welfare Act (AWA), Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW), and **UTEP's** IACUC and institutional policies.

What We Do

- **Provide training** on vivarium, surgery, and other essential animal care and methodology courses.
- **Facilitate animal orders and transfers** via eAnimal Ordering system. Approved vendors and inter-institutional transfers are supported.
- **Educate researchers** on writing protocols, proper animal experimentation practices, and best practices in lab animal care.
- **Maintain facilities and uphold best practices** in animal health, handling, enrichment, and welfare.

Why LARC Matters

- Humane treatment ensures both ethical integrity and reliability of research outcomes. Healthy animals, well-cared for and handled with minimal stress, yield more consistent, reproducible data.
- Compliance with federal regulations (AWA, OLAW) and institutional policies safeguards **UTEP's** research programs and funding.
- Training and support reduce delays or errors in animal-based projects, saving time and resources.

larc@utep.edu | research.utep.edu

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What You Should Know

- Animal orders must use the eAnimal Ordering system, with vendors approved by **LARC**. For non-approved vendors or institutional transfers, you must coordinate with **LARC** in advance.
- Training is offered regularly; some topics monthly (vivarium orientation, surgical), others by request.
- Use all available resources (SOPs, worksheets, design tools) for proper animal facility planning and protocol design.

Take the Next Step

Reach out to **LARC** early in your project design phase. Ensure your protocol and animal orders are in compliance. Seek guidance on training and animal procurement ahead of deadlines to avoid delays.

Contact Us

larc@utep.edu | research.utep.edu

