Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Training

This training policy is in effect for all animal research protocols submitted to the IACUC as of April 25, 2018 or later.

Requirement: All faculty and staff conducting research with vertebrate animals (regardless of whether those activities are externally funded, internally funded, or unfunded) are required to complete the CITI online course called "Working with the IACUC", which can be accessed here.

Individuals must first register on the CITI site and affiliate themselves with Wellesley College. The course takes about 45 minutes to complete. Upon completion of the course, the Office of Sponsored Research will automatically receive a completion notification for the individual, which can be made available to external sponsors by request. Training certifications are valid for a period of three years, after which time it is the individual's responsibility to complete the "refresher" CITI module. In addition, every three years, faculty and staff are also required to attend the vet's training course offered at the start of the summer research session.

All students conducting research with vertebrate animals are required to attend the training course offered annually by the consulting veterinarian, usually at the start of the summer research session and before beginning their research. The veterinarian training is recorded, so that people can view it at alternate times if they can't attend in person. In addition, students being funded by an external grant must also complete the CITI training referenced above.

Faculty, staff, and students are reminded that no research with vertebrate animals may be conducted without the advance review and approval of the Wellesley College IACUC. IACUC protocols will not be approved without documentation of the completion of the required training by the Principal Investigator. It is the Principal Investigator's responsibility to ensure and document that each current or future member of his/her research team (including students) engaged in animal research completes the required training.