“Requirements” for Qualifications, Training, and Occupational Health Programs

“It shall be the responsibility of the research facility to ensure that all scientists, research technicians, animal technicians, and other personnel involved in animal care, treatment, and use are qualified to perform their duties. This responsibility shall be fulfilled in part through the provision of training and instructions to those personnel.” USDA 2.32(a)

PHS Assurance must include “a synopsis of training or instruction in the humane practice of animal care and use, as well as training or instruction in research or testing methods that minimize the number of animals required to obtain results and minimize animal distress…” IV.A.1.g.

“Investigators and other personnel shall be appropriately qualified and experienced for conducting procedures on living animals. Adequate arrangements shall be made for their in-service training, including the proper and humane care and use of laboratory animals.” US Government Principle VIII

“All personnel involved with the care and use of animals must be adequately educated, trained and/or qualified in basic principles of laboratory animal science to help ensure high-quality science and animal well-being.” The Guide, Chapter 2

“It is the responsibility of the institution to ensure that scientists, agricultural animal care staff, students, and other individuals who care for or use agricultural animals are qualified to do so through training or experience.” Ag Guide, Chapter 1

“Each institution must establish and maintain an occupational health and safety program … as an essential part of the overall Program of animal care and use.” The Guide, Chapter 2

“An occupational health and safety program must be established for individuals who work with agricultural animals.” Ag Guide, Chapter 1

Specific Required Components

USDA 2.32(b) Training and instruction of personnel must include guidance in at least the following areas:

1) Humane methods of animal maintenance and experimentation, including:
   i. The basic needs of each species of animal;
   ii. Proper handling and care for the various species of animals used by the facility;
   iii. Proper pre- and post-procedural care of animals; and
   iv. Aseptic surgical methods and procedures.

2) The concept, availability, and use of research or testing methods that limit the use of animals or minimize animal distress;

3) Proper use of anesthetics, analgesics and tranquilizers for any species of animals used by the facility;

4) Methods whereby deficiencies in animal care and treatment are reported, including deficiencies in animal care and treatment reported by any employee of the facility.

5) Utilization of services available to provide information:
   i. On appropriate methods of animal care and use;
   ii. On alternatives to the use of live animals in research;
   iii. That could prevent unintended and unnecessary duplication of research involving animals; and

Ag Guide, Chapter 1: “Training programs should … provide information about …

1) husbandry needs, proper handling, surgical procedures, and pre-and post-procedural care;

2) methods for minimizing the number of animals used and techniques for minimizing pain and distress, including the proper use of anesthetics, analgesics, tranquilizers, and nonpharmacologic methods;

3) methods for reporting deficiencies in the animal care program;

4) use of information services such as the Animal Welfare Information Center at the National Agricultural Library; and

5) methods of euthanasia.”

Revised 03/11