

In the context of the rapidly evolving COVID-19 outbreak, Academic Affairs and the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) is providing guidance related to research involving vertebrate animals. This guidance is being issued to promote animal welfare, and to protect researchers and the community from risk of infection with COVID-19. This COVID-19 guidance is effective immediately for all research involving vertebrate animals.

- All university faculty and staff who are maintaining live vertebrate animals for research and/or teaching will inform the IACUC chair in writing of their plans to provide for the daily care of these animals. This communication can be completed by email ([Lonzard@uwec.edu](mailto:Lonzard@uwec.edu)).
- Active research projects that involve vertebrate animal subjects can continue, but any research activities that require face to face contact between research investigators should be postponed until further notice.
- If investigators with active IACUC approved protocols find it necessary to modify the contents of their protocols during this period, they should consult with the IACUC chair about the need to submit any protocol amendments.
- Principal Investigators remain responsible for renewing or terminating IACUC-approved research protocols that might otherwise expire during this time.
- Study specific questions or questions about unique circumstances should be directed to the IACUC chair ([Lonzard@uwec.edu](mailto:Lonzard@uwec.edu)).