

**17.0 IACUC Membership**

Appointment of IACUC.....17.1  
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<b>APPOINTMENT OF IACUC</b>	The Chief Executive Officer of the research facility must appoint an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). [2.31]
<b>Criteria</b>	<p>People appointed as IACUC members must have the experience and expertise needed to assess the research facility's: [2.31(a)]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• animal program</li><li>• facilities</li><li>• procedures</li></ul> <p>There should be some form of verification that the Chief Executive Officer has appointed the IACUC members, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• written letters of appointment</li><li>• documentation in the IACUC minutes</li><li>• periodic letter/memo of reappointment</li></ul> <p><b>NOTE:</b> Except as specifically authorized by law or the Animal Welfare Act regulations, the Animal Welfare Act and its regulations do <b>NOT</b> authorize a research facility's IACUC to dictate to a researcher how to conduct his/her research by: [2.31(a)]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>prescribing methods</i> for the design or performance of research or experimentation</li><li>• <i>setting standards</i> for the design or performance of research or experimentation</li></ul>



<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	<p>The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) must be composed of a Chairperson and at least two additional members. [2.31, Policy #15]</p>
<b>Members</b>	<p>The IACUC must be composed of: [2.31(b)(2)]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a Chairperson</li> <li>• at least one Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM)</li> <li>• at least one nonaffiliated member</li> </ul> <p>NOTE: To be a valid IACUC, all three positions must be <b>filled</b>.</p> <p>IACUC members must be qualified to assess the research facility's animal program, facilities, and procedures. The research facility is responsible for: [Policy #15]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensuring the qualifications of the members</li> <li>• providing training and instruction to the members in areas such as:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ the Animal Welfare Act</li> <li>▶ protocol review</li> <li>▶ facility inspection</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Although not specifically prohibited by the AWA, APHIS strongly discourages one person from filling more than one of these positions, such as: [Policy #15]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the DVM being the Chairperson</li> <li>• the nonaffiliated member being the Chairperson</li> </ul> <p>Note: APHIS also strongly discourages the research facility's Institutional Official from being the Chairperson or DVM.</p> <p>If the IACUC consists of more than three members, not more than three members can be from the same administrative unit of the research facility, such as: [2.31(b)(4)]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biology Department</li> <li>• Cardiology Department</li> </ul>
<b>Chairperson</b>	<p>The Chairperson is responsible for all activities of the IACUC including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• scheduling meetings</li> <li>• setting the agenda for meetings</li> </ul>

- sending a list of protocols to be reviewed to members
- moderating the meetings
- ensuring the research facility's compliance with the AWA and its regulations and standards
- keeping records of activities
- informing the Principal Investigator of the IACUC's decisions regarding his/her protocol
- sending the required reports to the Institutional Official

Note: The Chairperson may delegate one or more of these activities to other IACUC members or research facility staff.

**Doctor of  
Veterinary Medicine**

The Doctor of Veterinary Medicine must have: [2.31(b)(3)(i)]

- training or experience in laboratory animal science or medicine, and
- direct or delegated responsibility for activities involving animals at the research facility, and
- ability to critically review a protocol for veterinary care issues

NOTE: A research facility's Attending Veterinarian may fulfill the role of the DVM on the IACUC or the position may be filled by another veterinarian.

**Nonaffiliated Member**

The nonaffiliated or outside member represents the interests of the general public and must NOT be: [2.31(b)(3)(ii), Policy #15]

- a member of the immediate family of a person who is affiliated with the research facility
- a laboratory animal user at any research facility
- a person with a financial interest in the facility, such as an animal supplier
- compensated to an amount which jeopardizes the member's status as a nonaffiliated member

Compensation for the nonaffiliated member may include:  
[Policy #15]

- travel expenses
- parking

- meals
- a modest monetary payment which does not:
  - ▶ become an important source of income
  - ▶ influence voting on the IACUC

Examples of nonaffiliated members include, but are not limited to:

- clergy
- retirees
- humane society volunteers or employees
- practicing veterinarians
- physicians
- biologists not conducting animal research
- bioethicists
- non-research staff members from other institutions

