

Research involving Animals at a Glance

Research involving animals conducted by personnel affiliated with Nazarbayev University must be reviewed and approved by the Nazarbayev University Institutional Animal Use and Care Committee (IACUC) prior to research activities being initiated.

All investigators, whether staff, students, or faculty are required to adhere to university policies and ethical principles when conducting research involving animals. NU also accepted and follows the All European Academies Code of Conduct for Research Integrity (ALLEA) which briefly states: “Researchers handle research subjects, be they human, animal, cultural, biological, environmental or physical, with respect and care, and in accordance with legal and ethical provisions.”

All investigators must follow the procedures outlined in the application approved by the IACUC. If deviations from the IACUC approved protocol or violations occur, they must be reported promptly to the IACUC.

Revisions (changes) to an IACUC-approved research study must be reviewed and approved by the IACUC prior to implementation, unless subjects are at immediate risk of harm.

Reporting Adverse Events and Unanticipated Problems:

An adverse event or unanticipated problems (e.g. deviation in severity of a procedure [mild to moderate], clear signs of suffering) have to be reported to the IACUC immediately.

These events occur most commonly in the context of biomedical research, although on occasion, they can occur in the context of social and behavioral research.

Approval Period and Continuing Review of Research by the IACUC:

Research studies are approved by the IACUC for a period of 12 months. The IACUC approval letter for a research project will contain an expiration date not to exceed 12 months from the date of approval, and therefore, ongoing research studies must undergo continuing review by the IACUC every 12 months. Requests for renewal (continuing review) are made submitting a request for Continuing IACUC Approval Form, which is available. A request for renewal has to be submitted and approved prior to the expiration date in a timely fashion.

Exemptions and Deferral of Oversight:

Applications are considered to be exempt from review consideration if the research project described in the application is not involving animals that require oversight by the IACUC (e.g. *C. elegans*, *D. melanogaster*) or involve animal tissues, fluids, internal organs, eggs, embryos, fetuses, etc. that are either exempt or will be obtained commercially or have a valid approval from another Non-NU-Committee.

In such a case a deferral of oversight application is required.