Texas A&M University is committed to promoting and ensuring the highest standards of research integrity in proposing, conducting, and reporting research and to promoting and facilitating safe, ethical, and scholarly activity that reflects the University’s mission. To accomplish this, the research compliance and biosafety team works to build and maintain strong working relationships with those they serve, and others, to ensure compliance with federal, state, and institutional requirements.

HUMAN RESEARCH PROTECTION PROGRAM

The Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) is a resource for participants and investigators involved with human subjects research at Texas A&M University. The HRPP provides support to the Institutional Review Boards (IRB), education and outreach to the research community, and informs institutional policy on human research protections.

Federal regulations and institutional policy require any human subjects research conducted by agents of Texas A&M, including faculty, staff, or students be reviewed and approved by the Texas A&M IRB prior to being initiated. A sample of common research activities that require submission to the IRB are listed on SOP HRP-093.

Toolkit-Research Compliance and Biosafety

HRP-093 - SOP - Activities that Require IRB Review 7.27.20

Additional information and guidance for conducting human subjects research can be found in University Rule 15.99.01.M1 Human Subjects in Research at rules-saps.tamu.edu/PDFs/15.99.01.M1.pdf and the HRPP website at rcb.tamu.edu/humansubjects.

BIOSAFETY PROGRAM

All research, teaching, and testing activities conducted by Texas A&M faculty, staff or students, involving any of the agents/materials listed below, must be approved by the Texas A&M Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) prior to initiation:

- Pathogens and potential pathogens of humans, animals, or plants;
- Materials potentially containing human pathogens including human and non-human primate blood, tissue, and cell lines;
- Recombinant DNA (and RNA) including creation or use of transgenic plants, animals, and microbes;
- Toxins of biological origin;
- Select agents and toxins including strains and amounts exempted from the select agent regulations;

The IBC serves Texas A&M employees as well as employees from other A&M System members. rcb.tamu.edu/biohazards

Program contacts

Human Research Protection Program
979.458.4067

Biosafety
979.862.4549

Biosafety Occupational Health Program
979.845.6649

Animal Welfare Office
979.845.1828

rcb.tamu.edu
BIOSAFETY OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH PROGRAM

The Biosafety Occupational Health Program (BOHP) provides occupational health services to Texas A&M research and operations personnel identified as at risk of exposure to infectious biohazards (including bloodborne pathogens) or animal allergens in Institutional Biosafety Committee or Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee permitted spaces or in University facilities where animals are treated or housed. Through the BOHP, eligible participants have access to educational resources and trainings, occupational health services, and an occupational health provider.

rcb.tamu.edu/bohp

ANIMAL WELFARE OFFICE

Texas A&M has established an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) that meets all federal requirements, as defined in the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) and the Public Health Service Policy (PHS) on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. The Animal Welfare Office serves as the liaison between the IACUC and the research community and manages the compliance component of the animal welfare program.

The IACUC is responsible for the oversight, evaluation, and assurance of compliance for the institution’s animal care and use program as outlined in the PHS Assurance, AWA, and the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. The IACUC serves Texas A&M employees, as well as employees from other A&M System members. Clinical research conducted in the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences using client-owned animals must be approved by the Clinical Research Review Committee (CRRC) and the IACUC. Individuals who work with animals or are at risk from animal exposure must be enrolled in a Biosafety Occupational Health Program and informed of the risks associated with the animal exposure.

rcb.tamu.edu/animals

iRIS Portal

iRIS is an online application available to Texas A&M University faculty, staff and students for research compliance committee document submissions and review. For submission or technical assistance, call the iRIS support line or email iris-help@vpr.tamu.edu.

979.845.4969
iris.tamu.edu