The Division of Research is committed to promoting and ensuring the highest standards of research integrity in proposing, conducting, and reporting research. Through its various programs, the Division provides information and guidance in areas such as biosafety, animal use and care, human research protection, conflict of interest, biosafety occupational health, export controls, research misconduct, and responsible conduct in research.

BIOSAFETY OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH PROGRAM

The Biosafety Occupational Health Program (BOHP) provides occupational health services to Texas A&M personnel at occupational risk of exposure to animals or to infectious biohazards at Biosafety Level 2 (BSL-2) or higher in the course of their participation in Institutional Biosafety Committee or Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee permitted research, teaching or diagnostic activities. Through the BOHP, eligible participants have access to educational resources and trainings, occupational health services, and an occupational health provider. rcb.tamu.edu/bohp

BIOSAFETY PROGRAM

All research, teaching, and testing activities conducted by a member of the faculty or staff of Texas A&M 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 the A&M System members. rcb.tamu.edu/biohazards

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Animal Welfare Office
979.845.1828

Biosafety
979.862.4549

Biosafety Occupational Health Program
979.845.6649

Conflict of Interest
979.862.6419

Export Controls Program
979.862.6419

Human Research Protection Program
979.458.4067

Research Misconduct
979.845.8585

Responsible Conduct of Research
979.862.7986
HUMAN RESEARCH PROTECTION PROGRAM
The Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) is a resource for anyone involved with human subjects research at Texas A&M: potential research participants, current research participants, investigators, administrators, or interested community members. In conjunction with the Institutional Review Board, the HRPP works to assure the protection of human research participants and to ensure Texas A&M’s compliance with laws and regulations governing human subjects research. Any human subjects research conducted by Texas A&M faculty, staff, or students must be reviewed and approved prior to being initiated. Also, any party wishing to conduct research using Texas A&M employees or students as subjects must secure authorization prior to recruiting participants. 
rcb.tamu.edu/humansubjects/hrpp

RESEARCH MISCONDUCT
The Texas A&M University System defines misconduct in research as the fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, reviewing, or reporting research. It does not include honest error or honest differences in interpretations or judgments of data or primary source documents. A Texas A&M employee who becomes aware of possible misconduct in research should immediately report the concerns and/or allegations to their supervisor, department head, or dean, who will consult immediately with the designated officer regarding the nature of the concerns and/or allegations.

rcb.tamu.edu/a-m-research/factsheets/pdfs/ResearchMisconduct

FINANCIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST
In order to promote objectivity in research, researchers are required to disclose any involvement that might constitute a financial conflict of interest (FCOI) as applied to all externally sponsored research activities. Researchers must submit online via Maestro an Annual Financial Disclosure Statement to the FCOI office 1) within 30 days of employment, 2) annually, not later than August 31, and 3) within 30 days after acquiring a new significant financial interest requiring disclosure.

vpr.tamu.edu/manage-research/COI

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.

The IACUC is responsible for the oversight, evaluation, and assurance of compliance for the institution's animal care and use program and A&M System members as outlined in the PHS Assurance, AWA, and the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. The IACUC committee serves Texas A&M researchers and educators, as well as researchers and educators from 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

RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT OF RESEARCH
As an institution of higher education committed to the advancement of scholarship, Texas A&M University is responsible for (1) promoting academic practices that encourage honesty and scientific integrity and (2) developing rules and procedures for dealing with allegations or other indications of fraud or serious misconduct.

vpr.tamu.edu/manage-research/responsible-conduct-of-research

EXPORT CONTROLS
Export control laws and regulations establish the conditions under which controlled information and items can be transmitted to anyone outside the United States and to foreign persons and entities in the United States. They also restrict or prohibit the transaction of business with certain countries, persons, and entities that have been sanctioned by federal agencies as a threat to important U.S. interests. All Texas A&M employees and students must be aware of and are responsible for the export control implications of their work and must ensure that their activities conform to export control laws and regulations. There are severe institutional and individual sanctions for violations of export control laws and regulations, including the loss of research funding, loss of export privileges, and/or criminal and civil penalties.

vpr.tamu.edu/initiate-research/export-controls

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