IACUC Newsletter for the Nonaffiliated Member

December 1, 2025

In This Issue

- Welcome
- Who you may be
- What are your roles and responsibilities
- Resources for You
- Would like more information?

Welcome message

Welcome to the first issue of our newsletter, created specifically for Nonaffiliated Members of Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees in the Atlanta area. Our mission is to share information that supports your role on the Committee and to do so on a regular basis. We value your input—please let us know your feedback and suggest topics you'd like us to cover in future editions. This issue features the IACUC nonaffiliated member 101 to set the stage for future issues addressing cases or answering questions you may have.

Who you may be – knowledge check

The nonaffiliated member is one of 5 members (PHS Policy) or 3 members (Animal Welfare Act) who is appointed by the institution's chief executive officer or its appointee. So, who cannot be a nonaffiliated member? The nonaffiliated, also known as nonaffiliated or community, member must not be: 1. a laboratory animal user or former user; 2) affiliated with the institution, 2) a member of the immediate family of a person who is affiliated with the institution. Immediate family includes parent, spouse, child and sibling. Appointment of an individual who is unambiguously unaffiliated is the best way to fulfill the letter and spirit of this provision.

OLAW FAQ B1: https://olaw.nih.gov/faqs#/search/442/unaffiliated

What are you expected to do as a nonaffiliated member of the IACUC?

As a nonaffiliated member of the IACUC, you are expected to:

- brings an independent (non-institutional) perspective to the research endeavor. Ask straightforward, honest questions.
- represent the public interest. Understand the justification for the work being proposed with animals.
- helps to ensure transparency
- cast a vote and participates in all IACUC functions

Resources for You

- U.S. Government Principles for the Utilization and Care of Vertebrate Animals Used in Testing, Research, and Training
- Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
- The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals 8th ed.
- USDA Animal Welfare Act and Animal Welfare Regulations
- Guidelines for the Care and Use of Mammals in Neuroscience and Behavioral Research
- Occupational Health and Safety in the Care and Use of Research Animals 1997
- NIH Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
- United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
- AAALAC International
- Guidance on Qualifications of IACUC Nonscientific and Nonaffiliated Members

Would you like more information?

Please contact your IACUC Administration if you would like to recommend topics or activities to enhance and support your role in the IACUC.