

Southeastern Louisiana University Animal User Health and Safety Agreement

Students, faculty, or employees working with live vertebrate animals for research or teaching are required to read and sign this agreement before participating in activities involving physical contact with live vertebrate animals or work in any of Southeastern's animal housing facilities or laboratories in which animals are used.

This form is intended to inform you that there are adverse health risks associated with working with animals, particularly for pregnant women and individuals with allergies and respiratory conditions.

Also included are instructions for how to respond to and report an injury acquired while working with animals.

1. **Caution:** Some infectious diseases, including zoonoses (pathogens acquired from animals), are known to affect the fetus adversely. If you or someone in your household is pregnant or planning to become pregnant soon, please discuss your risk level with your personal healthcare provider. You may wish to review the Center for Disease Control website www.cdc.gov/ prior to working with animals.
2. **It is your responsibility to obtain a Tetanus vaccination** at least every 10 years, and possibly more if you are cut, bit, or scratched by animals.
3. Bloodborne pathogen training and **Hepatitis B immunization** are OSHA requirements for those who work with human blood or other potentially infectious material (blood products, body fluid tissues, human cell lines). It is your responsibility to obtain this vaccine if you work with human blood, blood products, tissues, or cell lines
4. **Injured individuals must notify the University Police and report injuries** (cuts, bites, scratches) **or illnesses** (for example, worsening animal-related allergies) by filling out an *Animal Injury Report Form*, which is available in animal holding room sink drawers or may be obtained from the IACUC. Please submit forms to the IACUC Chair.
5. Protection from animal **allergens** can be attained with proper use of an N-95 respirator. The Biology Department has a limited supply of these respirators available for individuals who require them. Please contact the IACUC Chair, and have the mask properly fitted by the University Health Center.
6. Individuals with a history of allergies, asthma, pneumonia, active tuberculosis, recurrent bronchitis, chronic cough, chronic sneezing/runny nose, chronic itchy, irritated eyes, wheezing/shortness of breath, allergy-related skin rash, immunosuppression, or any other health problems that might preclude working with animals is advised to seek counseling with their medical provider.
7. Additionally, it is your responsibility to have a health consultation with the University Health Center regarding working with live vertebrate animals and to turn in to the IACUC, a signed Health Consult Memo indicating that this consultation was completed. (Health Center Phone: 985-549-2242)

I have read and understand the health and safety warnings above regarding animal exposure, and I agree to consult with the Occupational Health and Safety Medical Officer, Dr. Robert Peltier regarding my particular health concerns associated with working with animals. I agree to report any injuries involving animal work to the University Police and the IACUC.

Animal User _____
Print Name Signature Date

Department Head _____
Print Name Signature Date