

Section:	Academic/Student (AC)
Subject:	Applied Research
Legislation:	<i>Animal Protection Act (RSA 2000 c.A-41)</i>
Effective:	January 21, 2005
Revision:	January 31, 2006; April 24, 2012; September 1, 2016 (reformatted); December 19, 2017; October 24, 2018; May 26, 2021

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**President and CEO**

**POLICY**

The policy of the Board of Governors is to promote and facilitate the proper and humane use and care of animals in SAIT’s research, testing and teaching activities.

**PROCEDURE**

**DEFINITIONS**

- Animal** For the purposes of this procedure, an animal includes any living non-human vertebrate (such as fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals) and any living invertebrate of the cephalopod class (such as octopi and squid), including free-living and reproducing larval forms.
- Education/research animal** An animal that SAIT uses for research, testing, or teaching.
- Olds College Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)** The committee that provides oversight of the animals that SAIT uses in its research, testing and teaching activities.
- SAIT Animal Care and Use Committee (SACUC)** The SAIT committee that provides oversight of the animals that SAIT uses in its research, testing and teaching activities.
- SAIT campus** SAIT’s main campus and all satellite campuses.

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## GOVERNING PRINCIPLES

1. The Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) has established policies and guidelines for the use and care of animals in research, testing and teaching: [www.ccac.ca](http://www.ccac.ca). In addition, within Alberta the welfare of animals is governed by provincial legislation. SAIT is governed by and will follow these policies, guidelines and legislative provisions when using live animals in its research, testing and teaching activities and when caring for those animals, regardless of whether such use and/or care takes place at a SAIT campus or at an off-campus location.
2. The use of animals in research, teaching and testing is acceptable only if it promises to contribute to understanding fundamental biological principles or to the development of knowledge that can reasonably be expected to benefit humans and animals.
3. SAIT does not intend to house animals on the SAIT campus on an on-going basis. However, as SAIT undertakes animal-based work on a small scale, SAIT will partner with a CCAC-certified post-secondary institution to ensure that SAIT's animal use and care complies with SAIT's certificate of good practice from the CCAC, meets the CCAC's policies and guidelines and passes scientific and pedagogical review by the SAIT Animal Care and Use Committee (SACUC).
4. SAIT has entered into a formal animal care agreement with Olds College, by which the Olds College Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) provides oversight of animals that SAIT uses in fulfilling its mission and ensures that SAIT uses and cares for these animals in a manner that considers the animals' clinical and behavioral well-being.
5. This procedure does not apply to animals that are brought onto the SAIT campus as per procedure HS.1.5.1 Animals on Campus and that are not education/research animals or animals for outreach activity.

## PROCEDURE

1. SAIT's vice president, corporate development, applied research and international, is responsible for the ethical care and treatment of education/research animals at SAIT. Concerns about SAIT's use of animals should be directed to this vice president.
2. SAIT does not permit animals to be housed on the SAIT campus or to be used in research unless:
  - a) The individual wishing to do so prepares and submits:

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- i) A Decision Support Package (DSP) that addresses this proposed activity and that sets out the details of a training program that meets the CCAC's requirements as per its Policy Statement for Senior Administrators Responsible for Animal Care and Use Programs, Appendix VIII, available on the CCAC's website; and
  - ii) A Crisis Management of Animals Plan.
- b) The director, applied research and innovation services, reviews and approves the submitted DSP and Crisis Management of Animals Plan.
3. The SACUC will review any and all proposed animal use by SAIT. No animal use may begin by SAIT until the SACUC has approved such use, and any animal use must meet the SACUC's conditions and requirements.
4. SAIT staff requiring animal use and care oversight must develop and submit protocol documents to the SACUC.
5. All employees working with animals in education and research must:
  - a) Be trained to do so in a training program that is species-dependent.
  - b) Renew their training every three years.
6. The SACUC will follow up on SAIT's animal use through a post-approval monitoring mechanism and through oversight by qualified animal care personnel.
7. Every effort should be made to cooperate with the Alberta Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the news media and the public, regarding the use and care of animals in research.
8. Questions about this procedure and its application should be directed to the director, applied research and innovation services.

## **POLICY/PROCEDURE REFERENCE**

AC.4.3            Treatment of Animals policy

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