

PURPOSE

The purpose of these procedures is to define where animals can be housed and provide the processes for approving non-traditional housing situations and extra-vivarial locations. The Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) requires all institutions to have policies or procedures in place for approvals to house animals in non-vivarium spaces or non-university owned locations.

SCOPE

These procedures apply to all experimental, production, and teaching animals (ie. those animals identified on an animal use protocol (AUP)) used by faculty, staff, students, and research personnel at the University of Saskatchewan (USask).

BACKGROUND

All animals used by USask personnel must be housed in a USask approved animal facility/location. If alternate locations are necessary, a request for approval can be sent to the UACC.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR OVERSIGHT

Responsibility for oversight of these procedures resides with the UACC.
Responsibility for following these procedures rests with the Principal Investigator (PI).

GENERAL PRINCIPLES and PROCEDURES

All animals owned by the University of Saskatchewan (USask) or whose primary use is by USask personnel for research, teaching, production or testing purposes must be housed in USask facilities with care provided by USask staff trained in the humane care and handling of the animals.

In cases where animals are held in USask non-animal facilities (ie. researcher lab spaces), the UACC Facility Inspection Committee (FIC) must inspect these spaces annually. These spaces must meet all relevant CCAC guidelines; the responsibility for meeting these guidelines rests with the PI. The UACC and University Veterinarian will provide suggestions on how best to meet the CCAC guidelines. Lab spaces should not be used if possible, however in some situations of specialized equipment location, lab spaces can be approved as locations for some animal procedures and experiments. It is encouraged for animals to reside in these locations for the shortest amount of

time preferably less than 12 hours. If animals reside in these locations for greater than 24 hours, then a plan must be made regarding the husbandry, daily health checks, sick animal monitoring, record keeping, and environmental parameter controls and recording. All locations holding animals are subject to post-approval review, annual facility inspections, and twice yearly veterinarian site visits.

The PI can make a request to the UACC through an animal use protocol (AUP) to use a non-animal facility location. The location use must be justified; approval rests with the UACC and FIC.

If suitable USask facilities do not exist, then alternate housing arrangements can be made subject to approval by the college/research institute, and the UACC. An appropriate memorandum of understanding or other approval document must be signed prior to approval being given. The following personnel must sign the approval document: the PI, University Veterinarian, UACC Co-Chair, department head, and the head of the non-university location. This document will outline the use of the animals, the daily care of animals, and who is responsible for their care. The document will indicate the need to inform the UACC and University Veterinarian of any animal welfare concerns with the USask-owned animals.

In the case of UACC approved animal-based research, teaching or testing with a component at remote sites, the principal investigator must comply with requests from the UACC for information regarding the site, facilities, housing, standards of animal handling, and/or procedures.

Studies involving free-ranging wildlife in which the animals are held for less than 24 hours are exempt from these procedures.

These procedures are effective as of May 31, 2023.

Procedure Review and Revision History		
Revision Number	Review/Revision Date	Reviewer
1	16 May 2006	UCACS
2	31 October 2011	UCACS
3	31 May 2023	UACC