

From NSF Grant Policy Manual

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Chapter VII – Other Grant Requirements

713 Animal Welfare Requirements

1. The grantee is responsible for the humane care and treatment of any vertebrate animal used or intended for use in such activities as field or laboratory research, development, training, experiments, biological testing or for related purposes supported by NSF grants.
2. Any grantee performing research on vertebrate animals¹² shall comply with the Animal Welfare Act [7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.] and the regulations promulgated thereunder by the Secretary of Agriculture [9 CFR 1.1-4.11] pertaining to the humane care, handling, and treatment of vertebrate animals held or used for research, teaching or other activities supported by Federal awards. The awardee is expected to ensure that the guidelines described in the National Academy of Science (NAS) Publication, “Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals” (1996) are followed and to comply with the Public Health Service Policy and Government Principles Regarding the Care and Use of Animals (included as Appendix D to the NAS Guide).
3. NSF proposal preparation requirements for projects involving the use of vertebrate animals are contained in the GPG Chapter II, Section C.11.d.
4. Prior to the issuance of an award for a project involving use of vertebrate animals, the project must be approved by an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) established through a multi-project assurance with the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) of the NIH, or else through a single-project assurance approved by the NSF.
5. During the life of the award, additional IACUC approval must be obtained if the protocols for use of vertebrate animals have been changed substantively from those originally proposed and approved, or if the previous approval is more than three years old. In the event the grantee's multi-project Assurance is cancelled or lapses, the grantee must immediately notify the NSF Grants Officer identified in the award.
6. Research facilities subject to the Animal Welfare Act using or intending to use live animals in research and who receive Federal funding are required to register the facility with the Animal and Plant Health

Inspection Service (APHIS), U.S. Department of Agriculture. A current listing of licensed animal dealers may also be obtained from APHIS. The location of the nearest APHIS Regional Office, as well as information concerning this and other APHIS activities, may be obtained at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/>.

7. Awards to U.S. grantees for projects involving the care or use of vertebrate animals at a foreign institution or foreign field site also require approval of research protocols by the U.S. grantee's IACUC. If the project is to be funded through an award to a foreign institution or through an individual fellowship award that will support activities at a foreign institution, NSF will require a statement of compliance that the activities will be conducted in accordance with all applicable laws in the foreign country and that the International Guiding Principles for Biomedical Research Involving Animals (see <http://www.cioms.ch/>) will be followed.

714 Marine Mammal Protection Act

The protection of marine mammals in research activities supported by NSF grants is the responsibility of the grantee. Proposals submitted to NSF in support of marine research activities must include a statement that the grantee will comply with the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, (16 USC §§1361-1421h).

715 GOVERNMENT PERMITS AND ACTIVITIES ABROAD

1. For awards that include activities requiring permits from appropriate Federal, state, or local government authorities, the awardee should obtain any required permits prior to undertaking the proposed activities.

2. The awardee should assure that activities carried on outside the U.S. are coordinated as necessary with appropriate U.S. and foreign government authorities and that necessary licenses, permits or approvals are obtained prior to undertaking proposed activities. NSF does not assume responsibility for awardee compliance with the laws and regulations of the country in which the work is to be conducted.