

Animal Research at UTHealth

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<https://inside.uth.edu/animal-research>

Animal Care Regulations

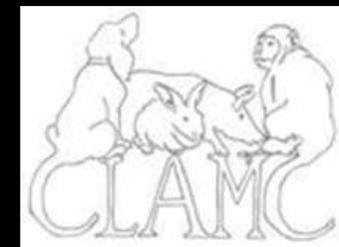
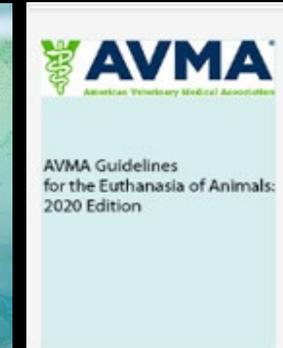
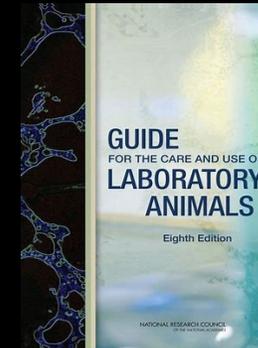
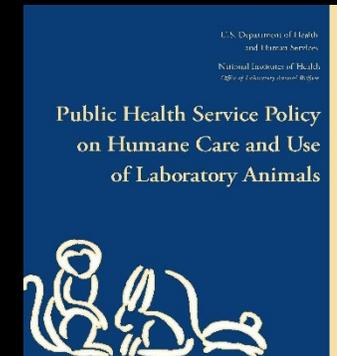
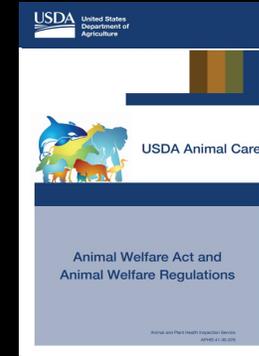
Animal Welfare Act (AWA)
Public Health Service (PHS) Policy

Federal Agencies
(USDA-APHIS, NIH-OLAW)

-The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
-American Veterinarians Medical Association (AVMA)
Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals
- AAALAC Accreditation Program

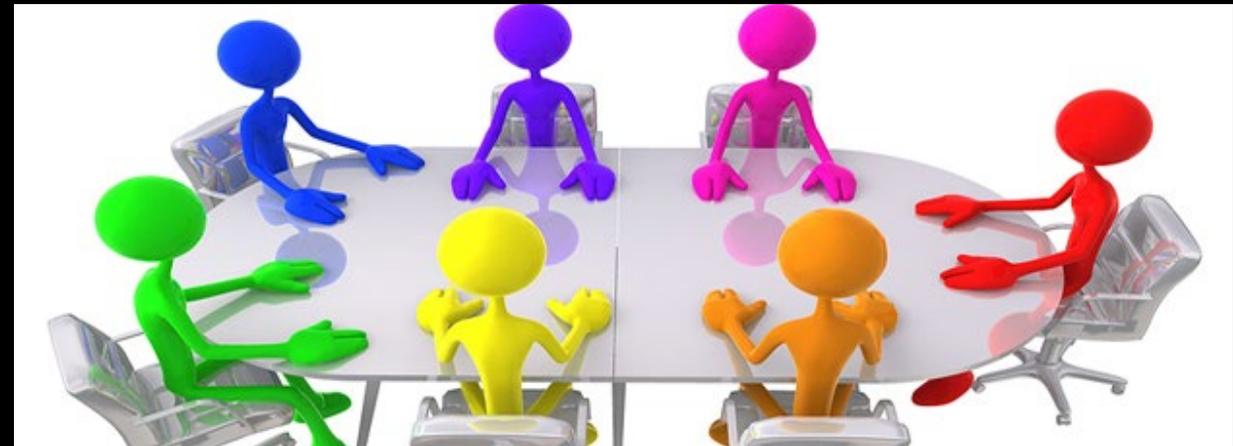
Veterinarians, Researchers, IACUC

Animal Welfare & Safety

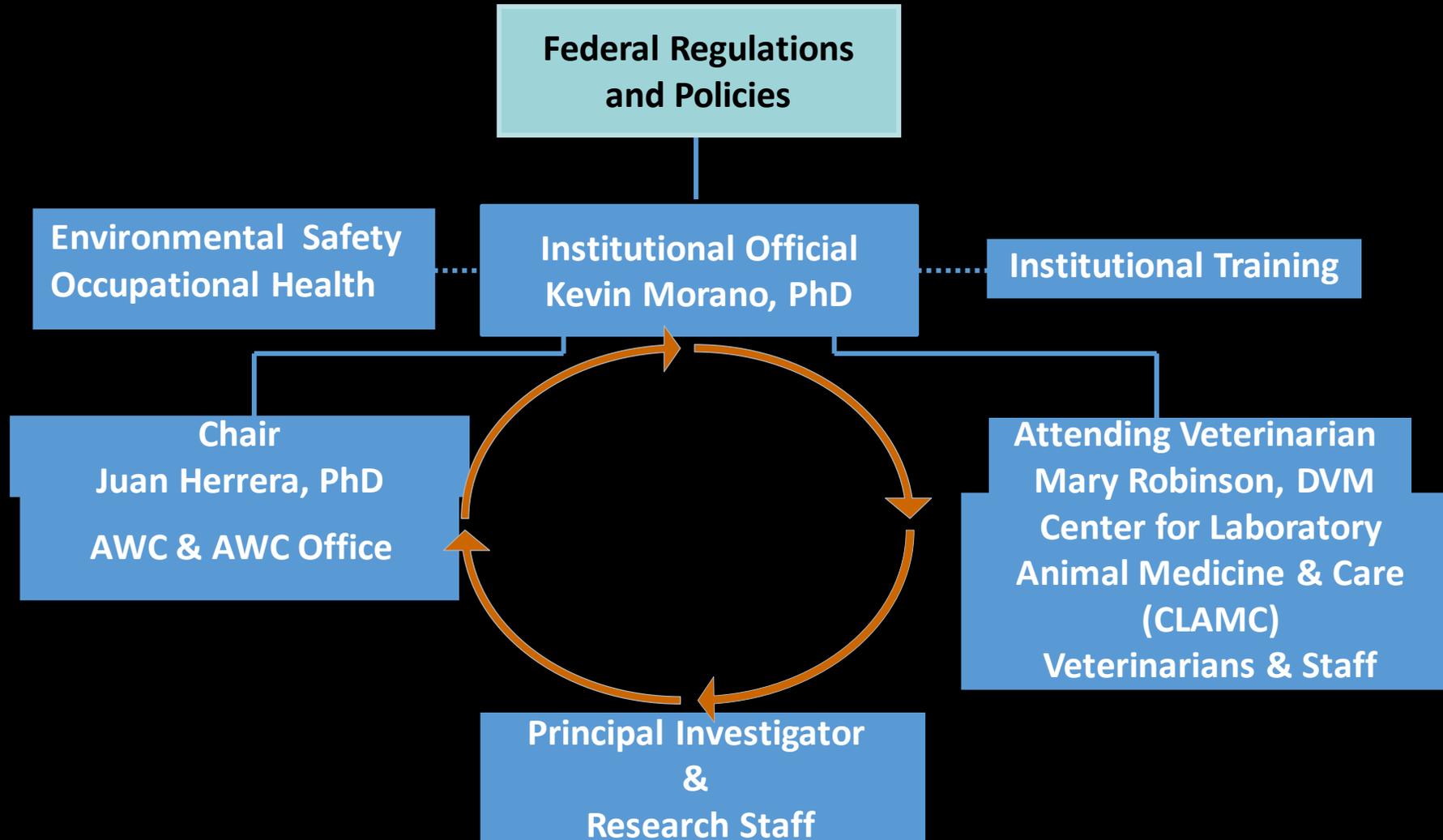


What is an IACUC?

- The **I**nstitutional **A**nimal **C**are and **U**se **C**ommittee
 - Known locally as the Animal Welfare Committee or **AWC**
 - Ensures that all vertebrate animals used for research are treated ethically and humanely.
- Members include:
 - Veterinarians
 - Practicing scientists experienced in animal research
 - Non-scientists
 - Non-affiliated members



UTHealth Animal Use and Care Program



When is an AWC animal protocol required?

- Covers all vertebrate animal activities performed at UTHealth facilities
- All animal activities, even off site, where UTHealth funds are used to purchase the research animals

Requirements to conduct research

- Approved animal protocol-PI must be a faculty member
- Completion of CLAMC training
- Enrollment in Occupational Health Program
- Approval for the use of chemical, biological or radioactive agents
 - approval for the use of human stem cell in animals

Investigator Training

<https://inside.uth.edu/animal-research>

Animal Research at UTHealth

🏠 / Resources for Animal Researchers / Animal Research at UTHealth

Animal Research at UTHealth

[AAALAC Accreditation](#)

[Animal Welfare Committee \(AWC\)](#)

[CLAMC - Center for Laboratory Animal Medicine and Care](#)

[Research Facilities](#)

[Facility Inspections](#)

Investigator Training

Investigator Training

Course Descriptions

[Register Online](#)

ANIMAL RESEARCH TRAINING REGISTRATION

UTHealth is committed to ensuring the privacy of your confidential information. For more information read the [UTHealth Privacy Notice](#)

To facilitate accurate course registration, please make sure that **ALL FORM FIELDS** are completed. If you do not know the information, please contact your PI before completing this registration.

Questions? Please contact CLAMC.Healthcare@uth.tmc.edu

First Name:

Last Name:

Email*:

Phone Number:

Job Title:

Department:

Principal Investigator (first and last name):

Protocol Number:

* Please note the email supplied will be the email class materials will be sent to

Species you will be working with under your protocol. Check all that apply.

* must provide value

- mice
- rats
- rabbits
- pigs
- sheep
- NHP
- aquatics

Occupational Health Enrollment

<https://www.uth.edu/animal-research/osha.htm>

Animal Research at UTHealth

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Center for Laboratory Animal
Medicine and Care (CLAMC)

AAALAC Accreditation

Animal Welfare Committee

Facility Inspections

Investigator Training



Occupational Health Program for
Personnel with Animal Exposure

Reporting Animal Welfare
Concerns

- 1) working within the University facilities which house animals;
- 2) having direct contact with animals;
- 3) having direct contact with non-sanitized animal cages or enclosures;
- 4) having direct contact with non-fixed or non-sterilized animal tissues, fluids and/or wastes;
- 5) providing service or support to animal equipment, devices and/or facilities.

Animal Protocol Submission

<https://inside.uth.edu/animal-research>

<https://iris.uth.tmc.edu>

Animal Research at UTHealth

🏠 / Resources for Animal Researchers / iRIS Links

Research Facilities

Facility Inspections ▼

Investigator Training ▼

iCARE Resources

iRIS Links

Log In

iRIS *Integrated Research Information Software*



User ID:

Password:

Log In

System/Browser Requirements

For iRIS assistance, call 713-500-7960. For password problems, call the Help Desk at 713-486-4848. System timeout after 120 minutes. SAVE your work!

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AWC Considerations for Animal Use

- The rationale provided for using animals
 - What is the significance of this research that can justify animal use?
- Appropriateness of the species
 - Why use this species?
 - Justification for the number of animals to be used
- Clear and concise sequential description of the procedures
 - Impact of the procedures on the animals' wellbeing
 - Description and rationale for anticipated or selected endpoints
 - Method of euthanasia or disposition of animals
- Were alternatives considered for this research?
 - Minimize the pain and suffering of the animals used
- Housing and husbandry requirements
 - Use of hazardous materials and provision of a safe working environment
- Adequacy of training and experience of personnel
 - Roles and responsibilities
 - Conduct of surgical procedures

AWC website resources-Policies for Animal Research

<https://inside.uth.edu/animal-research>

Animal Research at UTHealth

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Forms and Resources

[Policies for Animal Research](#)

[Occupational Health Program for Personnel with Animal Exposure](#) 

- [Environmental Enrichment and Social Housing Policy](#)
- [Environmental Enrichment Plan for Non-Human Primates Policy](#)
- [Expired Medical Materials Policy](#)
- [Food and Fluid Regulation Policy](#)
- [Genetically Modified Animals \(GMA\) Policy](#)
- [Guidelines for Housing Rodents in Cages with Wire Flooring](#)
- [Guidelines for Principal Investigator \(PI\)-Maintained Animal Facilities](#)
- [Image Capturing Policy](#)
- [Large Animal Survival Surgery Policy](#)
- [Mouse Cage Density and Overcrowding Policy](#)
- [Multiple Survival Surgery Policy](#)
- [Non-pharmaceutical Grade \(NPG\) Compound Policy](#)
- [Prolonged Restraint Policy and Procedure](#)
- [Rodent Surgery Policy](#)
- [Rodent Tumor Policy](#)
- [Standards for Sanitation Policy](#)
- [Tissue Collection in Rodents for Genotyping Policy](#)
- [Tribromoethanol Policy](#)
- [Unexpected Hatchling Policy](#)

AWC website resources-Breeding Calculator

<https://inside.uth.edu/animal-research>

Resources for Investigators

Strain	Number of mice needed for experiments	Years remaining in project	Sexes needed	Surplus mice	% of useable genotypes	Average pups per litter	Average litters per female	Total number per strain (incl surplus)	Total number for breeding
<i>Example</i>	500	3	Both	10%	25.0%	6	4		83
A. C57BL/6	150	3	Both	10%	100.0%	6	3	45	
B. Balb/c	120	3	Both	10%	100.0%	6	3	38	
C.			Both						
D.			Both						
E.			Both						
F.			Both						

or Exposures

AWC website resources-FAQs

<https://inside.uth.edu/animal-research>

 / Resources for Animal Researchers

- Investigator Training 
- iCARE Resources
- iRIS Links
- Animal Research FAQs**
- Grant Guidance
- Protocol Guidelines and Meeting Dates

Questions for the Animal Welfare Committee?

Contact us at 713-500-3625 or via email awc@uth.tmc.edu.

[How do I make an amendment/change to my already approved animal protocol?](#) 

[How do I get access to iRIS?](#) 

[Where do I find information about animal training courses?](#) 

[How do I obtain CLAMC animal resource facility access?](#) 

[How do I add a title or new Grant agency to my protocol approval letter?](#) 

[Who can I contact with questions regarding animal protocols?](#) 

[When are protocol applications due?](#) 

[When do I have to renew my animal research application?](#) 

[How do I add new personnel to my protocol?](#) 

AWC website resources

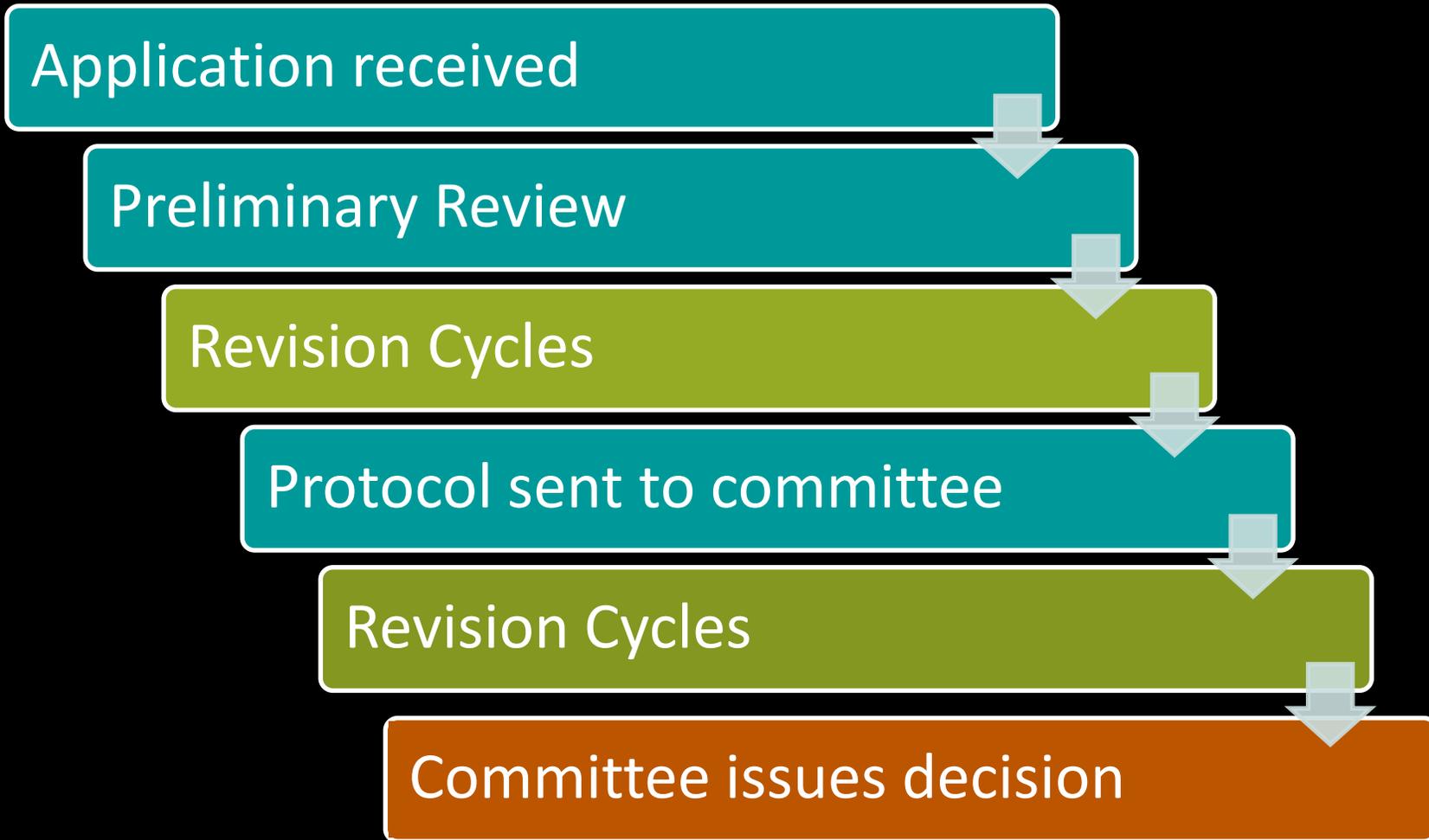
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🏠 / Resources for Animal Researchers

- Investigator Training ▼
- iCARE Resources
- iRIS Links
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- Protocol Guidelines and Meeting Dates

Suggested Initial Submission Date	Return Responses to Pre-Review by	For Review on (AWC meeting)
September 29, 2025	October 13, 2025	October 24, 2025
October 27, 2025	November 5, 2025	November 19, 2025*
November 20, 2025	December 3, 2025	December 17, 2025*
January 5, 2026	January 12, 2026	January 23, 2026
January 29, 2026	February 16, 2026	February 27, 2026

Protocol Review Timeline



What happens post-approval?

- Post-approval monitoring visits
- Amendments
 - New personnel, new strains, experiments & procedures
- Report adverse events & protocol deviations
- 3-year renewal (complete review)

AWC website resources-Grant Guidance

<https://inside.uth.edu/animal-research>

🏠 / Resources for Animal Researchers

Investigator Training



iCARE Resources

iRIS Links

Animal Research FAQs

Grant Guidance

Protocol Guidelines and Meeting Dates

Application Information

- AAALAC Accreditation Current Status and Date: Full Accreditation (Unit 000455), March 27, 2024.
- Original date of AAALAC accreditation: May 31, 1978
- PHS Assurance Number: A3413-01 or D16-00257, either number is acceptable
- USDA Registration Number: 74-R-0068
- NIH Guidance for Completion of the Vertebrate Animal Section for [grants](#) and [contracts](#).
- Description of the Animal Care and Use Resources and Program is provided on the [CLAMC](#) link.

Grant to Protocol Associations



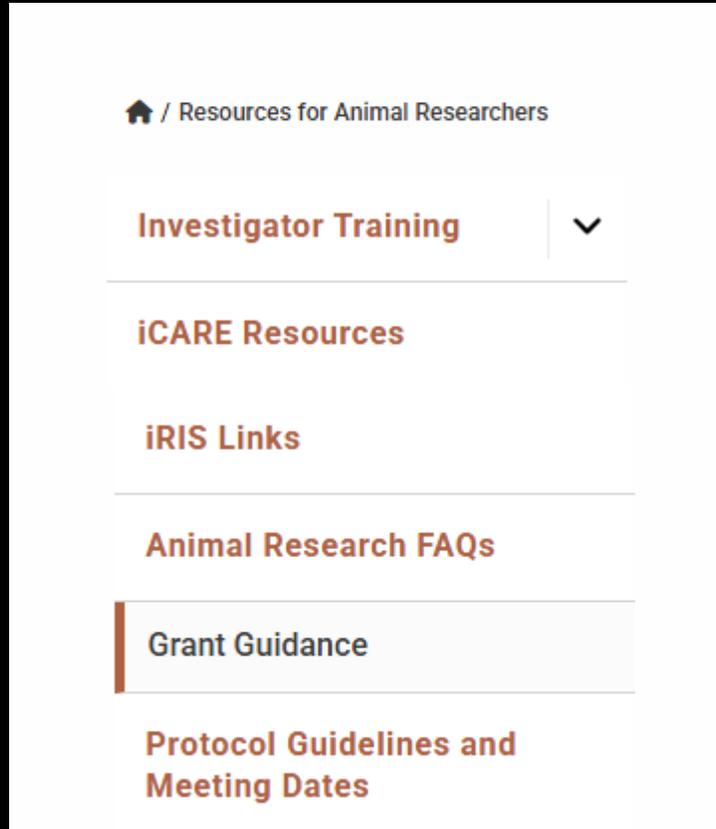
AWC website resources-FAQs

<https://inside.uth.edu/animal-research>

Investigator Training 	<u>How do I add new personnel to my protocol?</u> 
iCARE Resources	<u>Where do I find information about animal training courses?</u> 
iRIS Links	<u>How do I obtain CLAMC animal resource facility access?</u> 
Animal Research FAQs	<u>How do I add a title or new Grant agency to my protocol approval letter?</u> 
Grant Guidance	<u>Who can I contact with questions regarding animal protocols?</u> 
Protocol Guidelines and Meeting Dates	

AWC website resources-Grant Guidance

<https://inside.uth.edu/animal-research>



If the animal work proposed in the grant is already covered by an approved AWC animal protocol

If the research goals and animal procedures proposed in the grant is mostly covered by an approved AWC Animal Protocol for the same species of animals but with some variations (anesthesia, experimental groups, strains of animals, euthanasia methods, *etc.*)

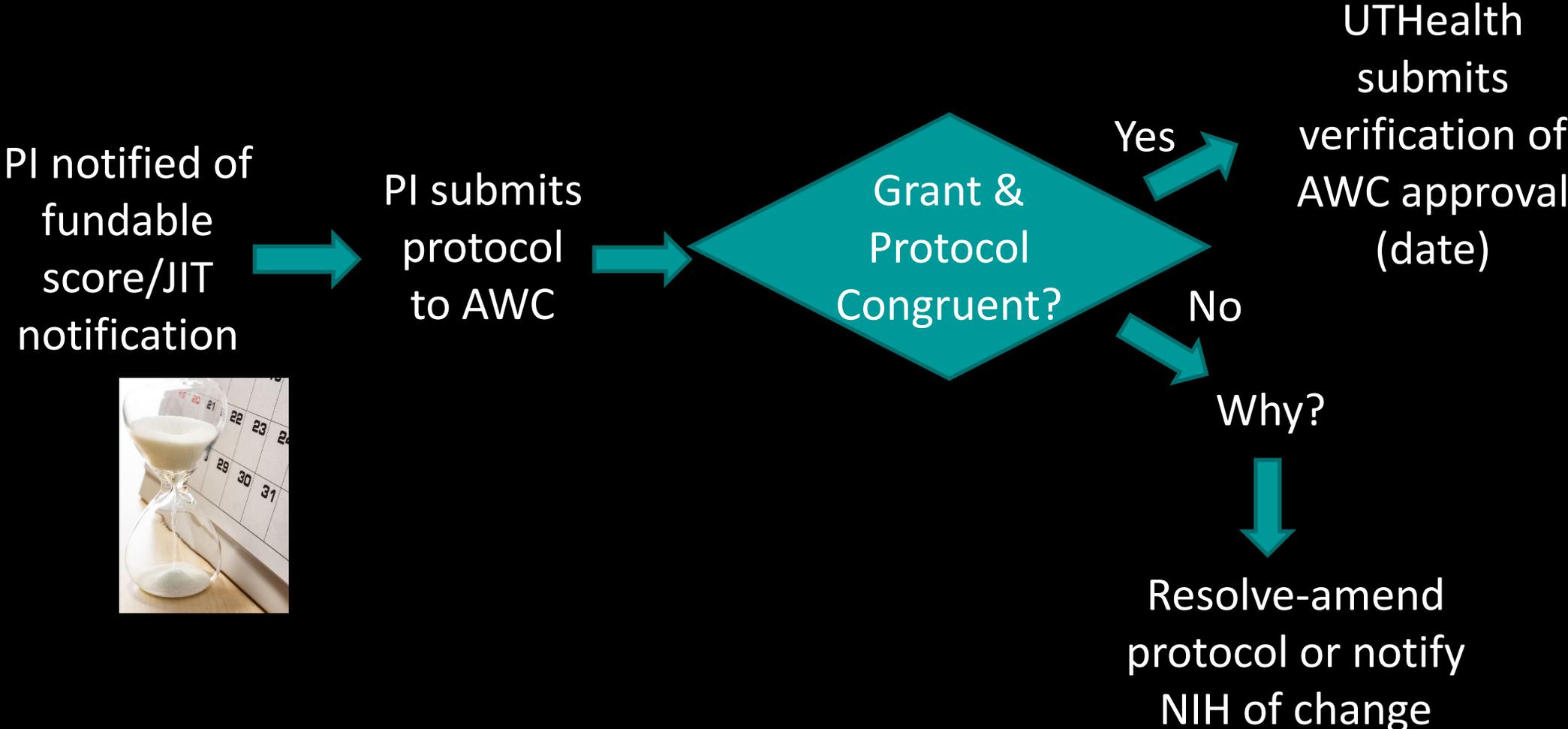
If the animal work proposed in the grant is not covered by an approved AWC Animal Protocol

If some or all of the animal work proposed in the grant is to be conducted at another institution

Grant Congruency-Does the AWC protocol match the grant?

- Satisfy the requirements of the PHS Policy & NIH grants policy
- All animal-related funding proposals undergo congruence review
 - Grant animal activities = Animal protocol activities
 - General scope of the work
 - Experimental procedures and endpoints
 - Species
 - Euthanasia method
 - Approximate number of animals

Typical Timeline for Congruency Review



Contact Information

AWC Office: (713) 500-3625, awc@uth.tmc.edu

AWC website: <https://uth.edu/animal-research/>

CLAMC main line: (713) 500-7728, acare@uth.tmc.edu

iRIS helpline: (713) 500-7960, option #2

