

<b>Washington State University</b> <b><i>Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee</i></b>	
<b>Policy #22</b>	<b>“Principal Investigator on IACUC Protocol”</b>
<b>Approval Date: 3/31/2021 (Replacing Version 3/28/2018)</b>	

### **A. Purpose**

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To state the requirements to become and responsibilities of a Principal Investigator (PI) on a WSU IACUC protocol/Animal Subject Approval Form (ASAF).

### **B. Definition**

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The PI is responsible for the conduct of the research or teaching in their laboratory.

### **C. Policy**

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Only WSU faculty shall be allowed to serve as the PI on an ASAF. Undergraduate or graduate students, residents, postdoctoral fellows and non-WSU personnel cannot be listed as PI on a WSU IACUC ASAF, but they may be listed as Co-Investigator or as other personnel if there is a WSU faculty member serving as the PI. Senior staff and managers will be considered for Principal Investigator on a case-by-case basis.

Exceptions must be submitted in writing for approval by the IACUC.

Any PI that maintains an active ASAF is responsible for the following:

- Ensuring that their ASAF(s) remains up to date and accurately describes all current animal research, teaching, and testing activities. An ASAF must be approved by the IACUC through procedures described in [IACUC Policy #2: Protocol and Amendment Review](#) before animal work may begin.
  - A new ASAF can be submitted on [MyResearch](#). Instructions for this process may be found [here](#).

- Any changes in animal research or teaching activities must be reflected in the ASAF by submitting an amendment as described in [IACUC Policy #24](#).
- Animal activities performed without IACUC approval are subject to being cited for a non-compliance per [IACUC Policy #27: Procedures for Addressing Non-Compliance](#).
- All procedures described in an ASAF must be covered by the grant or extramural funding.
- Notifying the Animal Welfare Program (AWP) Office at [iacuc@wsu.edu](mailto:iacuc@wsu.edu) and Office of the Campus Veterinarian (OCV) at [or.ocv.alert@wsu.edu](mailto:or.ocv.alert@wsu.edu) of any adverse or abnormal outcomes that affect animals covered under their protocols. Please view [IACUC Policy #37: Reporting Adverse Events](#) for additional guidance.
- Ensuring that all personnel and staff working with animals under their direction receive adequate training, are competent, and are familiar with applicable regulations and policies prior to performing work. Please view [Policy #20: Personnel Approval](#) for additional details.
- Remaining aware of and adhering to approved IACUC Policies, Guidelines, and SOPs for all animal work involving research or teaching activities. Please visit the [IACUC Resources page](#) to view these documents.
- Adhering to all applicable federal, state, and/or university regulations. These may include but not be limited to:
  - [The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals: 2011 Edition](#)
  - [Animal Welfare Act \(AWA\) Regulations: 2017 Edition](#)
  - [The AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals](#)
  - [The Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Research and Teaching](#)

Please visit the [WSU IACUC Website](#) or email the [AWP Office](#) to answer any questions.

The AWP Office also offers an orientation for new PIs or any PI interested in learning more about maintaining an ASAF with WSU. Please contact [iacuc@wsu.edu](mailto:iacuc@wsu.edu) if interested.