

**Washington State University**  
***Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee***

**Guideline #6: Veterinary Pool and Veterinary Technician Pool**

**Approval Date: 7.7.2021 (Replacing Version 4.26.2017)**

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**A. Purpose**

According to federal regulations and WSU IACUC policy, all individuals performing procedures on live vertebrate animals used in teaching, testing, exhibition, and research must be adequately trained. In certain cases, investigators either without specific training or who require additional assistance may utilize veterinary professionals to perform IACUC approved procedures and/or provide technical assistance. This is covered under the IACUC protocol/Animal Subjects Approval Form (ASAF) by selecting Veterinary Pool and/or Veterinary Technician Pool under the Personnel Section on an ASAF and submitting it for IACUC approval.

This document defines the minimum requirements for including an individual within Veterinary Pool and/or Veterinary Technician Pool and cases when the Veterinary Pool and/or Veterinary Technician Pool should be included in a protocol.

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**B. Background**

**Scope**

These guidelines apply to the following:

- a. Projects within the WSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH) and College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) when WSU IACUC-approved protocols are applied for teaching, research, or testing.
- b. Projects that utilize Office of the Campus Veterinarian (OCV) veterinary personnel for technical services.
- c. Projects that utilize USDA - Agricultural Research Service veterinary medical officers for technical services.

Examples of reasons that a Veterinary Pool might be used:

- a. Use of licensed veterinary technicians to collect blood samples from client-owned animals in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH).
- b. Use of Office of the Campus Veterinarian veterinary staff to place intravenous catheters in rodents.
- c. Please contact the Animal Welfare Program (AWP) Office at [iacuc@wsu.edu](mailto:iacuc@wsu.edu) with any questions about whether a Veterinary Pool should be selected in an ASAF or not.

**Requirements for including an individual under Veterinarian Pool:**

- a. Graduated with a DVM or VMD degree or equivalent from an accredited college of veterinary medicine.
- b. Employed by WSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital, College of Veterinary Medicine, USDA - Agricultural Research Service or the Office of the Campus Veterinarian.

If an individual does not meet all the requirements, the individual's name should be listed on the protocol with information regarding the relevant training, experience, and expertise to perform the procedures indicated in the ASAF.

**Requirements for including an individual under Veterinarian Technician Pool:**

- a. Licensed as a Veterinary Technician in the U.S. or Canada or meet the eligibility for examination as a veterinary technician as per Washington Administrative Code [WAC 246-935-060](#)
- b. Employed by WSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital, College of Veterinary Medicine, USDA - Agricultural Research Service or the Office of the Campus Veterinarian.

All individuals added to the Veterinary Technician Pool must meet the above requirements. Animal managers, laboratory managers, laboratory technicians or individuals that have passed American Association of Laboratory Animal Science certification courses cannot be considered to be a part of the Veterinary Technician Pool. All personnel outside of the Veterinary Technician Pool must be individually included in the ASAF or an IACUC-approved personnel protocol, and their experience and training to perform the selected procedures must be provided for the reviewers.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this guideline, please call the Animal Welfare Program Office at 509-335-7951 or email [iacuc@wsu.edu](mailto:iacuc@wsu.edu).