



# POLICY

<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Occupational Health and Safety Program</b>
<b>Policy Number:</b>	<b>2014-039</b>
<b>Responsible Department:</b>	<b>Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee</b>
<b>Policy Contact:</b> <b>Designation:</b> <b>E-Mail:</b>	<b>Donald E. Walters, Ph.D.</b> <b>Chair, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee</b> <a href="mailto:dewalters@westernu.edu">dewalters@westernu.edu</a>
<b>Approval Date:</b>	<b>10/8/14</b>
<b>Reviewed:</b>	<b>9/13/17</b>
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**Purpose of Policy:** To prevent or minimize the risk of illness or injury to persons working with or around animals and to provide for early diagnosis or attention if animal research-related illness or injury occurs.

**Policy Information:** Page 17 of the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the [Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals](#) states that “Each institution must establish and maintain an occupational health and safety program (OHSP) as an essential part of the overall Program of animal care and use.”

Certain animals and animal materials carry diseases or disease agents that are transmissible to humans. For their own protection, persons working with or around research animals, their tissues, body fluids, wastes, or who are exposed to animal allergens on a regular basis or who come into contact with animals must enroll in the OHSP. The list of persons includes, but is not limited to the following.

- Veterinarians and their staff
- Animal care workers
- Volunteers
- Investigators
- Visiting scientists, investigators and faculty (not including visitors normally not authorized to be in an animal use area, e.g. a visitor for a day touring a facility. See IACUC Policy No. 2014-040, Occupational Health and Safety Policy for Visitors)
- Laboratory technicians
- Students
- Facilities and maintenance personnel
- Custodial staff

**Related Policies:** Institutional Animal Care and Used Committee's Policy No. 2014-040,  
Occupational Health and Safety Policy for Visitors