

IACUC Update

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
The University of Texas at Austin

December 2014

Volume 8, Issue 3

Per Diem Rate Adjustments Effective January 2015

The Animal Resources Center recently announced per diem rate adjustments occurring during 2015 and beyond. For more information, please see the attached memo.

Welcome our new IACUC Program Coordinator, Wendy Keswater!

The Office of Research Support is please to welcome Wendy Keswater as the new IACUC Program Coordinator.

Wendy is a passionate animal care advocate with over 12 years of hands-on experience working in animal research facilities. After spending eight years with the University of Arizona, Wendy moved to Texas to be closer to her family. Here at The University of Texas at Austin, Wendy's goal is to help provide all research animals with the highest quality care while also expediting processes for the research community.

Wendy has lived in both Israel and Germany and enjoys painting in her spare time.

Protocol Review & Winter Break

In order to assist your planning and ensure the ORS is able to facilitate the review of IACUC protocol submissions, **protocol amendments and continuing reviews received before 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 will be processed before the end of business on Friday, December 19, 2014.** *Please note that if the protocol is returned or requires substantial revision, we may not be able to complete the review of those changes before the University closes.* All efforts to avoid waiting until the last day are appreciated.

Any new protocol or third-year resubmission submitted after 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 will not be reviewed until the February 9, 2015 Full Committee Review.



ORS Closed for Winter Break

12/22/14 – 1/1/15

The Office of Research Support (ORS) will be closed beginning Monday, December 22, 2013 and will reopen Friday, January 2, 2014. No protocol processing will occur during this time period.

For animal-related emergencies, contact the on-call veterinarian at the Animal Resources Center (ARC).

Cold Weather is Here. Protect Your Animals During Transport!

Texas weather is subject to occasional extremes that can affect animals being transported outdoors. Animals must be protected from direct sunlight during transport and sheltered from any rain, snow, or sleet.

Most animals can tolerate exposure to temperatures between 45°F and 85°F during short-term transportation on campus, but when temperatures are above or below that range exposure should be brief and supplemental heating or cooling for transport may be required depending on the species involved.

Contact the ARC for more information and advice on transportation options when adverse weather is a factor.

The next IACUC Full Committee Review (FCR) is **January 12, 2015.**

The submission deadline for review at this FCR is **December 10, 2014.**

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Please contact the Office of Research Support with any questions, comments, or concerns.
voice: (512) 471-8871 | web: <http://www.utexas.edu/IACUC> | email: IACUC@austin.utexas.edu



ANIMAL RESOURCE CENTER
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

2701 Speedway • 1 University Station A2500 • Austin, TX 78712-0136
Office: (512) 471-7534 • Fax: (512) 471-4336 • <http://www.utexas.edu/research/arcl>

MEMORANDUM

TO: Investigators utilizing the services of the Animal Resources Center

FROM: Dr. Glen Otto, Director, ARC

DATE: November 24, 2014

RE: Notice of rate adjustments effective January 2015 and requirements for budgeting future animal costs

In the time period since the last adjustment to per diem rates (which was announced in January 2012) another detailed cost analysis project has been performed in the ARC to calculate the true costs for animal care, following the relevant federal guidance: *Cost Analysis and Rate Setting Manual for Animal Research Facilities* [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/air/rate_setting_manual_2000.pdf]. This detailed and comprehensive approach to cost and rate calculations was done with input from the Accounting department and followed the same procedures utilized in the 2009-2012 cost and rate study. Based on the results of the analysis, each species' rate will increase or decrease independently based on the calculated cost of supplies and labor time devoted to that combination of species and housing type.

Investigators were given notice in 2012 that they should budget for 5% increases per year when planning projects and preparing grant submissions. However, the analysis of the actual expenses has shown that the true costs of maintaining most species has increased beyond this projection. UT-Austin has historically charged per diem rates that are well below average compared to peer institutions, but as the program has expanded and matured our costs are now very similar to other large institutions and our rates will need to increase accordingly.

It is recognized that for those species where the increases are significant, a jump from the old rates to the new ones in a single step would have a significant adverse impact on currently active grant budgets. For this reason, the ARC has worked with the Vice President for Research to establish a process that will help minimize the impact on previously budgeted sponsored projects. This has resulted in a rate structure that is a bit complicated, so investigators must familiarize themselves with the scenarios listed below to properly prepare proposal budgets and plan for future expenses. If there are any questions about this memo or the attached rate tables, please feel free to contact the Animal Resources Center for assistance.

Phase-in process for the new rates:

- 1) November 24, 2014 – Starting as of the date of this memo, all grant applications and project budgets that are submitted for external funding MUST incorporate the relevant standard per diem rates provided in the “ARC Projected Per Diem Rate Schedule.” The current version of this rate schedule is attached, but it will be periodically revised and rolled forward, so for future planning researchers should check the ARC website or contact our business office for the most recent version.
- 2) January 1, 2015 - A 5% increase over current per diem charges will be instituted across the board and will be reflected in bills sent out in early February.
- 3) October 1, 2015 – Two scenarios will be in place:
 - a. The standard per diem rates for all species will be increased to match the true costs calculated by the 2013-2014 cost and rate study (see the attached schedule).
 - b. For species with increases of greater than 5%, a capped "Continuation" rate has been calculated. **The Continuation rate will be billed for projects that are directly linked**

to grant or sponsored projects (i.e., 26-accounts) funded before 10/01/15. All grant accounts funded after 10/01/15 will be charged the standard rates. The Continuation rates will be capped at a maximum increase of 5% per year for the first two years after they go into effect. After that time (Oct. 2017) ALL projects will pay the standard rate.

NOTE: Ongoing research projects funded through mechanisms other than grants/sponsored research accounts (i.e. "26-accounts") are not eligible for the Continuation rate and ARC billing will reflect the standard rate effective 10/01/2015. However, the Vice-President for Research has identified limited bridge funding support that is available to help offset the financial hardship this may cause. Investigators can contact the ARC for more information.

- 4) October 1st, 2016
 - a. The standard per diem rates will be adjusted up or down based on a future financial analysis. At this time it should be assumed that they would increase 5%.
 - b. The Continuation rate increase for eligible accounts will be capped to 5% for those species that would otherwise be charged a higher standard rate.

- 5) October 1st, 2017 - The standard per diem rates will be adjusted up or down based on a future financial analysis. At this time it should be assumed that they would increase 5%. This rate will apply to ALL sources of funding.

The attached table lists the standard and Continuation rates for the most common species. In some cases where multiple accounts are used to pay for animals in the same area, research labs may need to establish additional cage card notations or other recordkeeping to assist the ARC in tracking per diem charges during this phase-in period. Questions about billing can be directed to the ARC Administrative Manager, Karen King.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions,
Glen Otto, DVM

Cc: Dr. Juan Sanchez, VP for Research

University of Texas at Austin Animal Resources Center Per Diem Rate Charges and Projections – issued 11/24/14

Species*	Current Rate	Standard Rate Effective 01/01/2015	Standard Rate Effective 10/01/2015	Continuation Rate** Effective 10/01/2015	Standard Rate Projected*** 10/01/2016	Continuation Rate** Projected 10/01/2016	Unified Rate Projected*** 10/1/2017
Mouse	\$0.49	\$0.51	\$0.74	\$0.54	\$0.77	\$0.57	\$0.81
Semi Barrier Mouse	\$0.64	\$0.67	\$0.90	\$0.71	\$0.95	\$0.74	\$0.99
Full Barrier Mouse	\$0.82	\$0.86	\$1.15	\$0.90	\$1.21	\$0.95	\$1.27
Rat	\$0.60	\$0.63	\$1.04	\$0.66	\$1.09	\$0.69	\$1.14
Semi Barrier Rat	\$0.78	\$0.82	\$1.16	\$0.86	\$1.22	\$0.90	\$1.28
Gerbil	\$0.77	\$0.77	\$0.77	\$0.77	\$0.81	\$0.81	\$0.85
Hamster	\$0.81	\$0.85	\$1.81	\$0.89	\$1.90	\$0.94	\$2.00
Rabbit	\$2.06	\$2.16	\$3.12	\$2.27	\$3.27	\$2.38	\$3.44
Voles	\$0.60	\$0.63	\$1.95	\$0.66	\$2.05	\$0.69	\$2.15
Wild Mouse	\$0.60	\$0.63	\$2.21	\$0.66	\$2.32	\$0.69	\$2.44
Pig	\$16.72	\$17.56	\$35.45	\$18.43	\$37.22	\$19.36	\$39.08
Cat	\$4.25	\$4.46	\$9.01	\$4.69	\$9.46	\$4.92	\$9.93
Monkey	\$6.18	\$6.49	\$13.12	\$6.81	\$13.77	\$7.15	\$14.46
Aquatic room	\$2.63	\$2.35	\$2.35	\$2.35	\$2.47	\$2.47	\$2.59
Colony room	\$24.82	\$26.06	\$78.39	\$27.36	\$82.31	\$28.73	\$86.42

*If your species or rate isn't listed or you have any questions about which rate is charged for your particular animals, please contact the ARC before you prepare your budgets. NOTE: Special handling requirements (e.g. ABSL-2 biohazardous care, extra PPE requested by lab, etc.) may result in added surcharges.

** The special Continuation Rates will be in effect from Oct. 2015 through Sept. 2017 and will only be available for 26-accounts (sponsored projects) that have been funded prior to 10/01/15.

***These projections will be updated at least annually, so be sure you are using the most recent version by checking the ARC website or contacting the ARC office.