

AC.4.3.1 TREATMENT OF ANIMALS	
Section:	Academic/Student (AC)
Subject:	Applied Research
Legislation:	<i>Animal Protection Act</i> (RSA 2000 c.A-41)
Effective:	January 21, 2005
Revision:	January 31, 2006; April 24, 2012; September 1, 2016 (reformatted); December 19, 2017; October 24, 2018; May 26, 2021, December 11, 2024

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**President and CEO**

## POLICY

The policy of the Board of Governors is to promote and facilitate the proper and humane use and care of animals in SAIT’s research, testing and teaching activities.

## PROCEDURE

### DEFINITIONS

<b>Animal</b>	For the purposes of this procedure, an animal includes any living non-human vertebrate (such as fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals) and any living invertebrate of the cephalopod class (such as octopi and squid), including free-living and reproducing larval forms.
<b>Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC)</b>	The SAIT committee that provides oversight of the animals that SAIT uses in its research, testing and teaching activities.
<b>Education/research animal</b>	An animal that SAIT uses for research, testing, or teaching.
<b>SAIT campus</b>	SAIT’s main campus and all satellite campuses.

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## GOVERNING PRINCIPLES

1. The Canadian Council on Animal Care ([CCAC](#)) has established policies and guidelines for the use and care of animals in research, testing and teaching. In addition, within Alberta the welfare of animals is governed by provincial legislation. SAIT is governed by and will follow these policies, guidelines and legislative provisions when using live animals in its research, testing and teaching activities as well as when caring for those animals, regardless of whether such use and/or care takes place at a SAIT campus or at an off-campus location.
2. The use of animals in research, teaching and testing is acceptable only if it promises to contribute to understanding fundamental biological principles or to the development of knowledge that can reasonably be expected to benefit humans and animals.
3. SAIT does not intend to house animals on the SAIT campus on an on-going basis. However, as SAIT undertakes animal-based work on a small scale, it has established the Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) to oversee this work. All animal care and use related to research, testing, or teaching must comply with SAIT's Certificate of Good Animal Practice from the CCAC, meet the CCAC's policies and guidelines, and pass the ACUC's scientific and pedagogical review.
4. This procedure does not apply to animals that are brought onto the SAIT campus as per procedure [HS.1.5.1 Animals on Campus](#) and that are not education/research animals or animals for outreach activity.

## PROCEDURE

1. SAIT's vice president, corporate development, applied research and international, is responsible for the ethical care and treatment of education/research animals at SAIT. Concerns about SAIT's use of animals should be directed to this vice president.
2. SAIT does not permit animals to be housed on the SAIT campus or to be used in research unless:
  - a) The individual wishing to do so prepares and submits to the ACUC:
    - i) An Animal Use Protocol that outlines the proposed activities and provides a comprehensive description of the training program or curriculum while adhering to the guidelines and policies established by the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC). Pedagogical merit and/or scientific peer review documentation and, where applicable, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) must be attached to

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- ii) A Crisis Management of Animals Plan, if applicable.
  - b) The ACUC will review any and all proposed animal use by SAIT. SAIT may not begin any animal-based work until the ACUC has approved such use, and any animal use must meet the ACUC's conditions and requirements.
- 3. All employees working with animals in education and research must:
    - a) Be trained to do so in a training program that is species-dependent.
    - b) Renew their training every three years.
  - 4. The ACUC will follow up on SAIT's animal use through a post-approval monitoring mechanism and through oversight by qualified animal care personnel.
  - 5. SAIT will make every effort to cooperate with the Alberta Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the news media and the public, regarding the use and care of animals in research.
  - 6. Questions about this procedure and its application, including questions about Animal Use Protocols and their supporting documentation, should be directed to the ACUC Chair or ACUC Coordinator by emailing [applied.research@sait.ca](mailto:applied.research@sait.ca).

## **POLICY/PROCEDURE REFERENCE**

AC.4.3      [Treatment of Animals policy](#)