



Monthly newsletter

27th Edition – November 2015

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Important AEC Information

Application Resources:

http://www.research.mq.edu.au/current_research_staff/animal_research_ethics/application_resources

Helpful hints to reduce AEC delays

- **Please do not download amendment/progress and final report forms and save them onto your computer for later use, as they are updated on an ongoing basis.** Always download a fresh form from this [web page](#). If old forms are used, they will be returned to you for amendment and resubmission.
- **All forms constitute a legal document and are to be completed in its entirety.** No parts thereof must be removed or altered.
- **Lodge applications well ahead of the closing date for submissions.** These dates are published on the [Animal Ethics website](#).



Permits and Licences

Victorian Forms for notification of fieldwork

In Victoria, the use of animals for research and teaching is regulated by Part 3 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986 and Part 4 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Regulations 2008. Under the Act, the conduct of Scientific Procedures using animals in Victoria must be licensed by the Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI).

It is the responsibilities of all persons using animals for research and teaching to ensure that:

- they are familiar with the relevant legislation, in particular the [Australian code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes](#)
- any work with animals is covered by an appropriate licence
- any work done is restricted to that approved by the responsible Animal Ethics Committee (AEC), and
- they only carry out work in authorised premises.

Individuals undertaking activities not authorised by a legally operating AEC, or under the authority of an improperly constituted or functioning AEC are liable to prosecution. **Appropriate licences can be found on the following link:** <http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/animal-health-and-welfare/animals-used-in-research-and-teaching/forms>

Additional Resources

Projects involving more than one institution and/or animal ethics committee (Collaboratives)

Per the Australian code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes 8th edition (2013) regarding Collaborative projects <https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/book/australian-code-practice-care-and-use-animals-scientific-purposes/2-6-other-responsibilities>

Responsibilities of investigators:

2.4.9 Investigators must notify the AEC in writing if they are involved in collaborative studies using animals at another institution, or if they are named in an application to the AEC of another institution (see [Clause 2.6.8](#)).

2.6.13 Investigators responsible for a project conducted in another country should, as a minimum, ensure that:
i. the project complies with the governing principles of the Code, provided that such compliance does not breach relevant local legislation
ii. the project is not conducted in another country as a mechanism of avoiding compliance with the Code.

2.6.14 Investigators who plan to use animals in another country must obtain approval from their institutional AEC for such use. Investigators must provide the AEC with advice on how the proposed project can meet the principles of the Code, taking into account compliance with local requirements.



MAWA (Medical Advances Without Animals)

The aim of the Medical Advances Without Animals Trust (MAWA) is to advance medical science to improve human health and therapeutic outcomes without using animals or animal products. Link: <http://www.mawa-trust.org.au/>

ECVAM (European Centre for the validation of alternative methods)

To promote the scientific and regulatory acceptance of non-animal tests which are of importance to the biomedical sciences, through research, test development and validation and the establishment of a specialised database service. Link: <https://eurl-ecvam.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>

ALTEX (Alternatives to Animal Experimentation)

ALTEX is devoted to the publication of research on the development and promotion of alternatives to animal experiments according to the 3R concept of Russell and Burch: Replace, Reduce, and Refine. Link: <http://www.altex.ch/About-ALTEX.36.html>.

ALTWEB (Alternatives to Animal Testing Web Site)

Altweb, the Alternatives to Animal Testing Web Site, was created to serve as a gateway to alternatives news, information, and resources on the Internet and beyond. Link: <http://www.altex.ch/Home.12.html>.

Animal Ethics Policies

Research Animal Breeding and Reporting Guideline

To provide guidance to animal research personnel for reporting research animal breeding and supply activities to the Animal Ethics Committee. Link: <https://wiki.mq.edu.au/display/animalfacility/AEC+Guidelines>

Animal Ethics Committee Meeting dates

2016

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS	MEETING DATE
Wednesday 27 January 2016	Thursday 18 February 2016
Monday 22 February 2016	Thursday 17 March 2016
Tuesday 29 March 2016	Thursday 14 April 2016
Tuesday 26 April 2016	Thursday 19 May 2016
Monday 30 May 2016	Thursday 16 June 2016
Monday 27 June 2016	Thursday 14 July 2016
Monday 25 July 2016	Thursday 18 August 2016
Monday 22 August 2016	Thursday 15 September 2016
Monday 26 September 2016	Thursday 20 October 2016
Monday 14 November 2016	Thursday 8 December 2016



Animal Ethics Calendar

Next Application submission deadline date 2015

Wednesday 27 January 2016

Next Animal Ethics Committee Meeting date 2015

Thursday 18 February 2016

Contributions

If you would like to contribute to the Animal Ethics monthly newsletter, kindly email that content for the next month's newsletter.

Should you have any queries regarding your research, please do not hesitate to contact:

Animal Ethics Team

Animal.ethics@mq.edu.au, +61 (0) 2 9850 7758 / +61 (0) 439 497 383

Alternatively, for more information about AEC policies, procedures, forms and ethical clearance requirements, please go to our webpage at

http://www.research.mq.edu.au/for/researchers/how_to_obtain_ethics_approval/animal_ethic