

Policy Governing Research and Educational Activity Using Animals

Introduction

Quest University (“Quest”) encourages and expects members of the Academic Community at Quest to participate in both Research and Educational Activity as an important means of both contributing to the search for truth and enhancing the learning experience which lies at the heart of Quest’s purpose. Quest expects that both Research and Educational Activity in which a member of the Academic Community participates will reflect the highest ethical standards.

In this regard, in connection with both Research and Educational Activity that involves the use of animals, Quest expressly adopts and endorses the principles of the Canadian Council on Animal Care (“CCAC”) as they are set out from time to time in the CCAC’s policies (“CCAC Policies”). The CCAC’s Policies identify the principles and values that underlie the ethical treatment of animals used in both Research and Educational Activity. The CCAC’s Policies may be reviewed on the CCAC’s website: www.ccac.ca.

At present and for the foreseeable future, Quest does not anticipate that animals will be used in either Research or Educational Activity that is conducted directly by members of the Academic Community on Quest’s campus. However, Quest does anticipate that members, particularly student members, of the Academic Community may participate in either Research or Educational Activity that is sponsored by third parties and which involves the use of animals.

The purpose of this Policy is both to establish a requirement that a member of the Academic Community obtain approval from Quest’s Research Ethics Board (“REB”) before participating in any Research or Educational Activity that involves the use of animals and to establish the procedures for obtaining such approval.

Quest expects that this Policy will be interpreted and applied in conformity with the CCAC’s Policies.

Definitions

Academic Community: every employee and student of Quest and all persons who are in any form of recognized collaboration with one or more of them for the purpose of undertaking either Research or Educational Activity or both;

Applicant: a member of the Academic Community who submits an Application;

Application: an application to the REB for approval of an Applicant's participation in either Research or Educational Activity or both that involves the use of animals;

Educational Activity: any form of organized activity that has as an important but not necessarily exclusive purpose furthering the educational attainments of a member of the Academic Community and for which some form of official recognition or reward will or may be sought from Quest; and

Research: any systematic investigation the goal of which is to establish facts, principles, or specific or general knowledge.

Requirement to Obtain a Certificate

Every member of the Academic Community who plans to participate in either Research or Educational Activity or both that involves the use of animals must first obtain a written certificate of approval ("Certificate") from the REB. The REB may only grant a Certificate if the Applicant has made an Application to the REB in conformity with both the requirements set out in this Policy and with such additional requirements as the REB may reasonably establish from time to time.

Issuance of a Certificate

The REB must not issue a Certificate unless it is first satisfied by evidence acceptable to the REB that the Research or Educational Activity or both which is the subject of the Application has been assessed for compliance with the CCAC's Policies by an appropriately constituted body or agency which has as one of its express purposes the assessment of such compliance. The Applicant is responsible for providing the REB with satisfactory evidence of such an assessment.

Authority of the Chair

For the purposes of this Policy, the Chair of the REB or a regular member of the REB designated by the Chair may act as the delegate of the REB for the purpose of deciding whether a Certificate should be issued to an Applicant.

Reporting

The Chair must report to the REB, not less than quarterly, about the number of Certificates that have been issued or refused during the period covered by the report. In connection with each such report, the Chair must provide sufficient summary details about the basis on which each Certificate referred to in the report was issued to allow any member of the REB to satisfy him or herself that the Certificate was properly issued or refused. The Chair must also maintain a separate file for each Application which contains all records related to that application.

The Chair must provide a copy of each report which the Chair makes to the REB to Quest's Chief Academic Officer ("CAO"). The CAO may review the file maintained by the Chair respecting the issuance or refusal of a Certificate at any time.