



THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: Animal Transportation

DATE: June 13, 2018

Guidelines for Animal Transportation

Transportation of research or teaching animals within or between campus buildings may be necessary during the course of a research project. Maintaining the health and well-being of the animals being transported is essential. It is important to maintain the animals' health status by avoiding exposure to potential pathogens, preventing injury, and reducing stressors such as temperature extremes, excessive noises, and confrontations with other animals. Transporting animals requires high attention to detail to ensure safety and well-being not only for the animals but also for personnel where the animals pass. Human health concerns include animal allergies, risk of animal escape, and exposure to hazards (i.e., microorganisms, chemicals, radioactive materials).

1. Transportation of animals should be done in a direct and timely manner, avoiding public areas whenever possible.
2. All methods of transporting animals must provide for the health and welfare of the animals.
3. Animals must not be transported with any other animal, substance, or device that may potentially cause injury to the animals being transported.
4. Care should be exercised in handling enclosures (i.e., transport boxes, containers, etc.), such that they are not tossed, dropped, or stacked in a manner that they might be expected to fall. During transport, containers or cages should not be carried in any way that may cause physical trauma or stress to the animals.
5. For aquatic species, special considerations are required for transportation in an aqueous environment.
6. For transport of animals that have been exposed to radioactive materials, contact the Radiation Safety Officer.
7. For transport of animals that have been exposed to a biological hazard (i.e., recombinant DNA, human cells, etc.), contact the Biological Safety Officer.
8. Temperature extremes must be avoided when transporting animals. When temperatures fall below 40°F or above 85°F, special precautions may need to be taken.
9. The USDA regulations must be followed when transporting animal species covered under the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). Transportation of all animals must comply with all applicable local and state laws and regulations.

10. Transport animals in covered or opaque cages or carriers or containers. These primary enclosures must be constructed of materials that can be either sanitized or disposed of, and must be designed to prevent the spread of fomites, microorganisms, chemicals, and radioactive materials where present. Additionally, they must:
 - a. Be escape proof.
 - b. Be labeled "Live Animal".
 - c. Provide adequate ventilation.
 - d. Provide food and water source as appropriate for species.
 - e. Use the same density requirements for animal housing as described in the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.
11. The use of personal vehicles, by investigators or laboratory staff, will require approval by the IACUC (within the IACUC protocol).
 - a. Exception would be animals that are imported on approved protocols directly to quarantine. This transportation would be handled by DLAR as a standard process with the quarantine SOP.