

Research Compliance: Key Terms & Resources

OLAW/NC3R

Term	Acronym	Definition
Office for Laboratory Animal Welfare	OLAW	OLAW is a United States Government agency responsible for ensuring the humane care and use of animals in Public Health Service-supported research, testing, and training. OLAW is responsible for granting assurance and Interinstitutional Assurance. More detail is available on the OLAW website => https://olaw.nih.gov/
Domestic Assurance		Domestic Assurance is required for any US-based performance site performing animal studies as part of a CARB-X subaward. OLAW negotiates domestic assurance with US-based performance sites that: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• control their own animal facilities• conduct animal research on-site• have an animal care and use program with:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• an Institutional Official (IO)• an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)• a veterinarian with program authority The OLAW website includes a list of performance sites with domestic assurance => https://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/assurance/300index.htm
Foreign Assurance		Foreign Assurance is required for any performance site outside the United States performing animal studies as part of a CARB-X subaward. OLAW negotiates foreign assurance with non-US based performance sites that: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• control their own animal facilities• conduct animal research on-site• have an animal care and use program with an authorized institutional signing official The OLAW website includes a list of performance sites with foreign assurance => https://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/assurance/500index.htm
Interinstitutional Assurance	IIA	OLAW negotiates IIAs with PDs who do not have their own domestic or foreign assurance and are contracting with an external performance site that does.
National Centre for the Replacement, Refinement and Reduction of Animals in Research	NC3R	NC3R is a UK-based scientific organization dedicated to replacing, refining and reducing the use of animals in research and testing. CARB-X funded companies must make every reasonable effort to comply with NC3R guidance on treatment of large animals (primates, cats, dogs, equines). More detail is available on the NC3R website => https://www.nc3rs.org.uk/

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Term	Acronym	Definition
Contract Research Organization	CRO	An organization that provides research services to a PD on a contract basis.
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee	IACUC	An IACUC is a federally mandated committee that oversees its institution's (PD, CRO, academic site) animal care and use program, facilities, and procedures.
Joint Oversight Committee	JOC	CARB-X's governing board
Memorandum of Understanding	MOU	An agreement required between Boston University, the PD, and, if applicable, the performance site. The MOU must be fully executed before studies involving CARB-X funds can begin.
Office of Sponsored Programs	SP	SP is the group within Boston University Research Administration which issues the subawards, which includes a vertebrate animal term that lists requirements for beginning animal work.
Performance Site		The physical location where animal research is conducted. OLAW assurance is specific to a performance site. If a PD or CRO has more than one site, each site must have the proper assurance.
Product Developer	PD	A CARB-X funded entity
Vertebrate Animal Section	VAS	<p>A document describing the planned animal studies required by OLAW prior to issuing an assurance or IIA. PDs working with their CROs (if applicable) must include a sufficient level of detail on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Description of Procedures2. Justifications of Animal Use3. Minimization of Pain and Distress4. Method of Euthanasia <p>For a full description of the VAS, visit the OLAW website => https://olaw.nih.gov/guidance/vertebrate-animal-section.htm</p>