


	IACUC Approval: February 20, 2003
	SOP: <b>IACUC Review and Approval of Outside Sources of Animal Samples</b>

## Background

The purpose of this document is to clarify U.S. Public Health Service and University requirements for review and approval of projects that propose the procurement of antibodies and animal samples from non-USA sources.

## Definitions and Requirements

**Off-the-shelf antibodies** and animal samples are defined as standard reagent antibodies and samples produced by a commercial supplier that uses its own resources and offers them for general sale, e.g., through a catalogue. For these antibodies and samples, the supplier is not required to file an Animal Welfare Assurance (Assurance) with the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW), and the IACUC is not required to review and approve the project.

**Custom antibodies** and animal samples are produced by a supplier or contractor using antigens or other procedures provided by or at the request of an investigator. The following requirements apply to the purchase and use of custom antibodies and animal samples by USA Principal Investigators (PIs):

- The supplier must have an approved Assurance on file with NIH OLAW.
- Prior to ordering a custom antibody or animal sample, the PI must assure the IACUC that they have obtained documentation to verify that the proposed supplier has an approved Assurance and provide the approval date of the supplier's animal use protocol.
- Notify the IACUC whenever PI submits a PHS grant application proposing the use of custom antibodies, so that face page agreement can be confirmed:
  - Check "Yes" for vertebrate animal involvement.
  - List the approval date of the proposed supplier's animal use protocol.
  - Record the assurance number of proposed supplier.