

## University of South Alabama Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

### IACUC REVIEW AND APPROVAL

#### OF OUTSIDE SOURCES OF ANIMAL SAMPLES

##### Background

The purpose of this document is to clarify U.S. Public Health Service and campus 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):

1. The supplier must have an approved Assurance on file with NIH-OLAW.
2. Prior to ordering a custom antibody or animal sample, the PI must ensure 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.
3. PIs should notify the IACUC whenever they submit a PHS Grant Application that proposes the use of custom antibodies so that the IACUC can ensure the face page lists:
  - "Yes" for vertebrate animal involvement
  - The approval date of the proposed supplier's animal use protocol.
  - Assurance number for the proposed supplier.