



## ADOPTION OF RESEARCH/TEACHING ANIMALS

### Overview/Purpose

This policy provides information as to what is required before animals owned by Ohio State may be adopted at the end of the study.

### Requirements

If animals are intended to be adopted at the end of the study, the IACUC protocol final disposition should include “adoption” as an option. The adoption process must be coordinated through the Office of the Attending Veterinarian (OAV) who will ensure completion of the required form (i.e. Adoption form). In the case of USDA-covered species, the OAV or a College of Veterinary Medicine Behavioral Specialist will perform an assessment of the animal and determine if it has a behavioral profile appropriate for adoption.

Attempts to identify potential homes for these research animals should be done discreetly, and under no circumstances will animals be transferred to an intermediate handler (Humane Society, County Shelter, foster home) for placement. (Emails to list serves, posting on social media, and posting pictures of animals to be adopted in public areas are not considered discreet.)

Animals used in biohazardous research or ones with physical or behavioral abnormalities are not good candidates for adoption and will not be adopted out.

### History of Revisions

028-00 - new policy approved 10/2002

028-01 – included more details as to what was required before animals could be adopted, approved 09/21/07

028-02 – clarified what is meant by discreet attempt to find new homes, approved 01/21/11

028-03 - removed information about the transfer of animals between protocols 09/18/15

028.04 – minor grammatical changes 08/17/2018

028-05 – minor update to non-discreet examples 08/20/2021