Mission Statement
To use our expertise to provide the highest standard of care for laboratory animals in support of the Colorado State University research community.

CSU’s Laboratory Animal Resources (LAR) oversees the care and management of animals used in research and teaching at Colorado State University in over 48,000 square feet of animal holding space for small and large animals including animal bio safety level 3. LAR collaborates with investigators to meet their research needs by providing a full-spectrum of animal care and related services including veterinary medical care, animal acquisition and disposition, consulting, colony management, training and research support.

Services

Husbandry Services
Animal care is provided 365 days per year to assure the health and well-being of the animals. Our standard operating procedures have developed over the years to assure consistent, reliable care in accordance with federal regulations and guidelines, and to meet AAALAC accreditation standards.

Training
LAR provides training to investigators and their staff in the proper handling and restraint of laboratory animals, as well as biomethods including blood collection techniques, injection techniques, oral gavage, surgery and necropsy.

Animal Orders and Work Orders
Animal orders may be placed online following IACUC approval. Work orders can be placed online to communicate special needs to the animal care staff.

Animal Tracking and Cage Cards
Cage cards are integrated with the animal management software system and are the primary means of tracking animal census. This allows accurate identification of animals and monthly calculations of per diem charges.

Rates and Billing
Rates are assessed annually using the NIH Cost and Rate Setting Manual as a guideline to assure fair and equitable rates. Current rates are available on our website.

Research Services
A variety of research services are available to assist in the successful completion of your project. This includes management of genetically modified mice and other species, sample administration, sample collection, surgical support, post-operative care, experimental design, animal model selection, and protocol development.

Veterinary Services
LAR veterinary staff provides the support to maintain the health and well-being of research animals. This includes clinical case management, surgical and anesthesia support, emergency response and investigator training. The veterinary staff also provide instructional support to veterinarians and veterinary students interested in careers in laboratory animal medicine.

Objectives

- Foster an environment of care, respect and support for animals, researchers and staff
- Provide humane husbandry and veterinary care for research animals
- Facilitate essential animal-based research with an emphasis on ethics, communication and safety
- Participate with investigators in the development of animal-based research
- Promote educational opportunities for staff, students, researchers and the public
- Maintain animal facilities and equipment to meet animal needs and regulatory standards of care
- Be a leader in the field of animal care and support
- To be fiscally responsible and efficient

Animal Import and Export
Importing or exporting animals on or off campus is facilitated through LAR to assure health standards are maintained. LAR is equipped with a climate controlled, IACUC approved vehicle to transport animals across campus.