

The following guidelines have been established for individuals working with Laboratory Rodents:

- You should have a current Tetanus/diphtheria (Td) vaccination: (one that can be documented within last 10 years).
 - It is highly recommended that you receive a Td booster if you experience a significant injury and your vaccination was administered more than 5 years previous.
 - It is highly recommended that you receive a Td booster if you have not been vaccinated within the last 10 years.
- Hand washing stations, toilets, shower facilities, and separate eating areas are provided for individuals working with farm animals and should be used as appropriate.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) appropriate for the job, class, or 'task at hand' is available for individuals working with laboratory animals and should be used as appropriate. Training on use of PPE will be documented and workers are expected to adhere to facility policies on appropriate PPE use.
- A Respiratory Protection Program is available for any employees/students working in dusty (feeds, bedding, dried animal waste, etc.) environments requiring more than a dust mask for respiratory protection. All employees and students working in these environments should consider enrolling in the University's respiratory protection program (TTU OP 60.05). Visitors should be aware of the nature of the dusts (allergies, ocular/nasal irritation), and exposure should be limited by short duration in the area for touring purposes only.
 - This program includes medical examinations with a yearly physician's statement of medical qualification to wear a respirator.
 - Yearly respirator fit testing is required and is performed by TTU EH&S.
- All employees and students should be properly trained in handling techniques specific to the particular species with which they will be working.
- All employees and students should be aware of potential allergens associated with the particular species with which they will be working.
- All employees and students should be aware of potential zoonoses associated with the particular species with which they will be working (species-specific zoonosis information is provided in the next module of this risk evaluation and is also available on the TTU IACUC web page).
- All employees and students should be aware of the potential physical hazards associated with the particular species they will be working with. These hazards may include, but are not limited to, bites and scratches.