

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

- The Tetanus/diphtheria (Td) vaccine/titer is required for all animal handlers. You must have a current Tetanus/diphtheria (Td) vaccination or booster (one that can be documented within the last 10 years).
 - It is 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 recommended that you receive a Td booster if you have not been vaccinated within the last 10 years.
- You should be provided with adequate hand washing, toilet and shower facilities, and separate eating areas, as appropriate.
- Wear adequate personal protective equipment (PPE), appropriate for the job, class, or 'task at hand'.
 - PPE (lab coats, gloves, protective eyewear) is provided for personnel working with rodents.
 - PPE (gloves, gowns, surgical masks) is provided for personnel working with rodents when exposed to fluids or any other tissue collection (necropsy).
- A Respiratory Protection Program is available for any employees/students working in environments that require a respirator for respiratory protection. This is determined by an exposure assessment. All employees and students working in these environments must enroll in the University's Respiratory Protection program (TTU OP 60.05).
 - This program includes medical examinations with a yearly physician's statement of medical qualification to wear a respirator.
 - Yearly respirator fit testing is required for all respirators (including N95/100, P95/100, and R95/100 disposable respirators), and will be performed by TTU-EH&S.
- Employees and students are made aware of potential allergens associated with the particular species with which they will be working. Talk to your supervisor or contact your PCP or OHP if you have specific questions regarding allergens.
- Employees and students must be properly trained in handling techniques specific to the particular species with which they will be working. For appropriate training, contact ACS or your supervisor BEFORE beginning animal work.
- Employees and students are made aware of potential zoonosis for the particular species with which they will be working. Contact your supervisor or reach out to EHS if you have specific questions regarding potential zoonosis.
- Save the following links to report safety concerns or incidents:
 - Safety Concerns: <https://www.depts.ttu.edu/ehs/about/scan.php>;
 - Report an incident: <https://www.depts.ttu.edu/ehs/about/incident-reporting.php>?