

The following guidelines have been established for individuals working with Wild Animals, including high-risk mammals (rodents, bats):

- 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.
- Wear adequate personal protective equipment (PPE), appropriate for the job, class, or 'task at hand'.
 - PPE (gloves, surgical masks) is provided for personnel working with wild animals 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 your supervisor BEFORE beginning animal work.
- Potential physical risks associated with working with wild animal species include bites or scratches.
- 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>?
- All employees and students who travel to foreign countries for purposes of collecting, trapping, and/or obtaining samples from animals:
 - Should seek information regarding pre-travel immunizations and/or chemoprophylaxis to prevent endemic diseases. These employees are encouraged to discuss their health status and planned foreign travel with an occupational health professional. This may include pre-exposure rabies immunization.
 - All employees and students, who collect, trap and/or obtain samples from mammals known to be high risk or rabies transmission should carefully consider pre-exposure rabies immunization. See IACUC Policy 023