

VSU Occupational Health & Safety Program for Animal Users

	Breeder-Supplied Warm Blooded Vertebrate Animals	Wild Warm Blooded Vertebrate Animals	Cold Blooded Vertebrates (Minimal Risk)
Species Types	Laboratory rodents Birds	Mammals Birds	Reptiles Amphibians Fish
Applicable to: Researchers Research Assistants Animal Caretakers Veterinarian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional health screening¹ • Special immunizations² • Species specific education/training • Appropriate PPE use and hygiene³ • Illness and injury reporting <p><u>Required Paperwork:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Animal Worker Occupational Safety and Health Information Form 2. Animal Worker Health Screening Questionnaire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional health screening¹ • Species specific education/training • Appropriate PPE use and hygiene³ • Illness and injury reporting <p><u>Required Paperwork:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Animal Worker Occupational Safety and Health Information Form 2. Animal Worker Health Screening Questionnaire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tetanus immunization certification⁶ • Species specific education/training • Appropriate PPE use and hygiene³ • Illness and injury reporting <p><u>Required Paperwork:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Animal Worker Occupational Safety and Health Information Form 2. Animal Worker Tetanus Immunization Certification
Applicable to: Classroom Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tetanus immunization⁴ • Species specific education/training • Student opt-out for health reasons⁵ • Appropriate PPE use and hygiene³ • Illness and injury reporting <p><u>Required Paperwork:</u></p> <p>None – Health and safety risks and required protections included in course curriculum</p>	Not Applicable - Wild mammals and birds are not handled by students in an instructional setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tetanus immunization⁴ • Species specific education/training • Student opt-out for health reasons⁵ • Appropriate PPE use and hygiene³ • Illness and injury reporting <p><u>Required Paperwork:</u></p> <p>None – Health and safety risks and required protections included in course curriculum</p>

¹ Includes health history review for pre-existing allergies and compromised immune system, certification of current tetanus immunization, physical examination as appropriate, animal exposure risk assessment, and counseling.

² Determined by the health care professional with input from the IACUC and OEOS as appropriate.

³ Determined by the responsible investigator/instructor in consultation with OEOS as necessary and as specified in the AUP

⁴ Tetanus immunization is an admissions requirement and is monitored by Student Health Services; separate certification of immunization from students is not required.

⁵ The instructor explains potential health risks; students with health concerns can opt out of animal contact without penalty.

⁶ The Tetanus Immunization Certification Form includes the date of current booster so currency of immunization can be monitored. It also instructs the animal worker to confer with his/her health care provider regarding specific health concerns and encourages the health care providers to likewise advise the animal worker of additional risks based on the individual's health status.