**About this form**

It is the personal responsibility of Chief Investigators (including teachers) to meet the requirements of the Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes (The Code) for all matters that relate to the wellbeing of the animals that they use, including their housing, husbandry, and care.

The governing principles of the Code direct that respect for animals must underpin all decisions and actions involving the care and use of animals for scientific purposes. This respect is demonstrated by:

1. using animals only when it is justified
2. supporting the wellbeing of the animals involved
3. avoiding or minimising harm, including pain and distress, to those animals

(iv) applying high standards of scientific integrity

(v) applying Replacement, Reduction and Refinement (the 3Rs) at all stages of animal care and use:

(a) the Replacement of animals with other methods

(b) the Reduction in the number of animals used

(c) the Refinement of techniques used to minimise the adverse impact on animals

(vi) knowing and accepting one’s responsibilities.

The Charles Sturt Animal Ethics Committee (AEC) is responsible for ensuring that all activities relating to the care and use of animals are conducted in compliance with the Code. The AEC must review applications for projects and approve only those projects that are ethically acceptable and conform to the requirements of the Code.

Please use this form to provide details of your research/teaching proposal. The chief investigator (primary contact) is responsible for completing and submitting this form, along with all required supporting documents and attachments. The AEC will assess the information provided and will advise of the outcome in writing.

**NOTE:** Approval may be given for up to three (3) years if the project methodology remains the same. However, an ‘Authority for the use of animals’ is only given for a maximum of one (1) year. This is a legal requirement. Before a new authority can be issued for the next year, the researcher must submit an ‘Annual Report and Application for Continuation’ before the anniversary of the original approval.

**Completing the form**

* This form can be completed electronically.
* Digital forms and electronic signatures are preferred.
* For agenda closing dates, see the AEC Meeting Schedule on the [AEC website](https://research.csu.edu.au/integrity-ethics-compliance/animal).
* If you have any questions, please phone (02) 6933 4322 or contact animalethics@csu.edu.au
* **Please note that this application only relates to the proposed ethical use of animals.** If your research involves the use of human subjects, radiation, restricted biological materials or chemicals, separate approval may be required by the appropriate University committee. Please refer to the [Research Integrity Unit website](https://research.csu.edu.au/integrity-ethics-compliance/)
* It is a requirement to complete **all** sections appropriately for your application to be considered. **Your application will be returned to you if it has missing sections**. Add additional lines or duplicate tables where needed to provide more information.

**Checklist for submission**

* Ensure you have sent the following documents along with your application:

[ ]  Animal Monitoring Sheets

[ ]  Any SOPs that need to be approved (e.g., previous SOPs that have expired or new submissions)

[ ]  Owner consent forms (if applicable)

[ ]  Collaborative research agreements (if applicable)

**Submitting the application**

* If your application is to be submitted on behalf of the School, please send your completed documentation to SAEVS-AEC@csu.edu.au; they will then forward your application, once signatures have been obtained, to the AEC for processing.
* If you are submitting an application on behalf of Gulbali, please ensure you submit your whole application – including relevant approval signatures – via email to animalethics@csu.edu.au. Ensure all relevant supporting documents are attached. Complete applications will be added to the agenda of the next available Animal Ethics Committee (AEC) meeting.

**Notification of outcome**

The Animal Ethics Partner will notify the Chief Investigator of the outcome of their application via email within 10 working days of the meeting.

**Do not assume a request has been granted until you are formally advised by the Animal Ethics Committee in writing.**

Section A: General Information

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Application Type | Choose an item. |
| Project Name |  |
| Proposed Start Date | Click or tap to enter a date. |
| Projects can only commence after they have been approved by the AEC and a valid ‘*Authority for the use of Animals*’ has been issued. The proposed start date must correlate with a date occurring after the next scheduled AEC Meeting. |
| Proposed End Date | Click or tap to enter a date. |
| For projects expected to be over 12 months in duration, note that an ‘*Authority for the use of Animals*’ can only be issued for a maximum period of 12 months in accordance with the Animal Research Act 1985. Investigators must ensure they re-apply for an Authority every 12 months to comply with the legislation and annual reporting requirements in the Code. |
| States / Locations where research will occur | [ ]  New South Wales[ ]  Victoria[ ]  Queensland[ ]  Tasmania[ ]  South Australia[ ]  Western Australia[ ]  Other (provide details) |
| Other: |

Section B: Personnel / Team Details

### B1) Chief Investigator

The person responsible for the project. If the application is on behalf of a student, the Chief Investigator must be the student’s supervisor and is required to be contactable for animal emergencies.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| QualificationsTitle, position |  |
| Project Responsibilitiese.g., animal handling, sample collection |  |
| Competent / Not yet Competent |  |
| Relevant ExperienceIf not competent, please describe how competency will be achieved or identify competent individual that will supervise at all times. |  |
| Email |  |
| Phone |  |
| Declaration of Responsibilities |
| As Chief Investigator, I confirm that:[ ]  All information in this application is true and accurate, to the best of my knowledge.[ ]  I have completed the Charles Sturt University ELMOs entitled ‘*Animal Care and Ethics*’, and ‘*Research Integrity’* within the last three years.[ ]  The use of animals in this project will comply with the NSW Animal Research Act 1985, Animal Research Regulation 2021, the Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes, NHMRC 8th ed. 2013 (The Code, updated 2021), and any other legislation, guidelines and conditions imposed by other jurisdictions where applicable.[ ]  All personnel listed in this application have been provided with a copy of the application, have agreed to being listed, and are familiar and will comply with the requirements of the Code.[ ]  I understand that only procedures documented in this application and approved by the AEC are permitted, and that a modification request must be submitted prior to any changes to this project.[ ]  I understand my reporting obligations to the AEC, including for unexpected adverse events, and annual and final reports.[ ]  I accept ultimate responsibility for the conduct of all procedures detailed in this application, and for the supervision of all personnel delegated to perform any such procedures.[ ]  I accept ultimate responsibility for all matters relating to the welfare of all animals used during this project.[ ]  I understand that I have an obligation to treat the animals with respect.[ ]  I agree to comply with any conditions imposed by the AEC and communicate with the AEC as required.[ ]  Adequate resources, including funding and personnel, will be available for the conduct of the project.If applicable:[ ]  I have personally inspected the animal housing/holding facility to be used during this project and I am satisfied regarding the smooth running of the housing facility for the duration of the project. |
| Signature |  | **Date** |  |

### B2) Team Members

If you are using volunteers on the project they should **not** be listed below, they should be provided as a separate attachment to the application outlining their responsibilities. You should include a full list of all volunteers used and the duties undertaken in your annual and end of project reports.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Member #1 Name |  |
| QualificationsTitle, position, internal/external staff member |  |
| Project Responsibilitiese.g., animal handling, sample collection |  |
| Competent / Not yet Competent |  |
| Relevant ExperienceIf not competent, please describe how competency will be achieved or identify competent individual that will supervise at all times. |  |
| Email |  |
| Phone |  |
| Signature |  | **Date** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Member #2 Name |  |
| QualificationsTitle, position, internal/external staff member |  |
| Project Responsibilitiese.g., animal handling, sample collection |  |
| Competent / Not yet Competent |  |
| Relevant ExperienceIf not competent, please describe how competency will be achieved or identify competent individual that will supervise at all times. |  |
| Email |  |
| Phone |  |
| Signature |  | **Date** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Member #3 Name |  |
| QualificationsTitle, position, internal/external staff member |  |
| Project Responsibilitiese.g., animal handling, sample collection |  |
| Competent / Not yet Competent |  |
| Relevant ExperienceIf not competent, please describe how competency will be achieved or identify competent individual that will supervise at all times. |  |
| Email |  |
| Phone |  |
| Signature |  | **Date** |  |

### B3) Conflict of Interest Management and Mitigation

The Code defines conflict of interest as a ‘*situation in which a person’s individual interest or responsibilities have the potential to influence the carrying out of his or her institutional role or professional obligations, or where an institution’s interest or responsibilities have the potential to influence the carrying out of its obligations*.’

|  |
| --- |
| Conflicts of interest must be acknowledged, and management clearly explained below. |
|  |

### B4) Prior Offences and Animal Authority Cancellation Declarations

|  |
| --- |
| Have any personnel participating in the proposed project been convicted in the last 3 years of an offence under: |
| Animal Research Act 1985 or Regulations? | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 or Regulations? | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 or Regulations? | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| Exhibited Animals Protection Act 1986 or Regulations? | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| Biosecurity Act 2015 or Regulations? | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| Any equivalent Commonwealth, other State or Territory Statute or Regulations? | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No |
| If you answered yes to any of the above, please provide details of the offence and any penalty imposed.  |
|  |

### B5) Prior Authorities

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Have any of the people participating in the project had any animal research authority or animal supplier’s licence cancelled? If yes, provide the following details for each person: | [ ]  Yes[ ]  No |
| Name #1 |  |
| Organisation |  |
| Date |  |
| Reason for cancellation |  |
| Name #2 |  |
| Organisation |  |
| Date |  |
| Reason for cancellation |  |

### B6) Prior Submission to This or Another AEC

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Has any substantial component of the described protocol been submitted to this AEC or another AEC (previously or currently)? If yes, provide the following details: | [ ]  Yes[ ]  No |
| Name of the AEC to which it was submitted.Reference No. (if applicable) |  |
| Date of previous submission |  |
| Brief description of previous submission |  |
| Reason why this is being submitted again |  |
| If the application was not approved, please provide the date this occurred and a summary of the reason for its rejection |  |

Section C Animal Information

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| TAXON / Species Code *Refer to* [*NSW DPI*](https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/1330905/Guide-for-reporting-animals-used-in-research-v3.pdf)  | Choose an item. |
| Species Type - *Refer to strain or breed, e.g., Thoroughbred horse. For wildlife surveys the exact species of animals cannot be known but target species should be identified, and full information reported retrospectively to the AEC in the annual report* |  |
| Number of Animals - *For wildlife surveys the exact number of animals cannot be known but should be estimated and full information reported retrospectively to the AEC in the annual report.* |  |
| Sex of Animals | [ ]  Male [ ]  Female [ ]  Mixed/Unknown |
| Purpose - *Select the most appropriate Purpose Number (A1-A10) to describe the primary purpose of the project, only one purpose may be entered for each project. Refer to* [*NSW DPI*](https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/1330905/Guide-for-reporting-animals-used-in-research-v3.pdf)  | Choose an item. |
| Procedure - *Enter the highest appropriate Procedure Code (P1-P9) to describe the type of procedures carried out on the animals in the project. Include additional codes for each procedure category (as free notes) where different animals within the same project are subjected to different procedure categories. Refer to* [*NSW DPI*](https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/1330905/Guide-for-reporting-animals-used-in-research-v3.pdf)  | Choose an item. |
| Location - *Where address is not in the dropdown list provide location details as free text, in the case of wildlife projects stipulate to the nearest town.* | *Choose an item.* |
| Source of Animals - *For privately owned or commercially sourced animals, please include an ‘Animal use consent form’ and ‘Animal use information statement’.* | [ ]  CSU herd[ ]  Privately owned[ ]  Commercially sourced[ ]  Wildlife remaining in the wild |

Section D Permits, Licences, Collaborative Agreements and External Agencies (including funding)

|  |
| --- |
| Please provide details of all licences required to undertake this project. List all licences that you have obtained. Where a licence is pending, enter PENDING under Start Date.IMPORTANTIf a current licence is not held and is required, then any approval will be subject to the AEC being notified of receipt of a licence. The project may not commence without a licence. |
| Licence Name/Level | **Licencing Body** | **Holder** | **Start Date**  | **Expiry Date** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Does this project involve collaboration with any external organisations?If yes, provide the following details: | [ ]  Yes[ ]  No |
| Collaborator #1 Name(including title) |  |
| Role in Project Team |  |
| Organisation Position(Job title/role) |  |
| Email |  |
| Phone |  |
| Collaborator #2 Name(including title) |  |
| Role in Project Team |  |
| Organisation Position(Job title/role) |  |
| Email |  |
| Phone |  |

Please attach copies of:

* the agreement/s with collaborator/s or collaborating institution/s
* the application
* an approval letter from collaborating institution/s (if available).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Are any of the collaborators from overseas organisations? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  No |
| If yes, attach evidence that the study will be conducted in accordance with the minimum requirements of the Code (2013), Section 2.6.9-14 and the relevant Australian animal welfare legislation.  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Is funding associated with this project? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  No |
| Will this project still go ahead if funding is not approved? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  No |
| If yes, provide details on how the project will proceed without funding |
|  |
| Funding Source #1 |  |
| External grant identifier |  |
| Investigators |  |
| Funding Source #2 |  |
| External grant identifier |  |
| Investigators |  |
| Does the funding body have a commercial interest in the outcome of the project, or the right to impose limitations on the publications of the results? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  No |
| If yes describe the limitation or commercial interest. If there are more funding sources to list, please attach an additional page to your application. |
|  |

Section E: Declarations

## E1) Subject Co-ordinator Signature (if applicable and a different person to the Chief Investigator)

***Review the entire application and read the declaration below. If you have any concerns or amendments, please advise the Chief Investigator. If you approve, please sign below using your digital signature, and email a copy of this form back to the Chief Investigator.***

I confirm that:

[ ]  The use of animals in this project will comply with the NSW Animal research Act 1985, Animal Research Regulation 2021, The Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes, NHMRC 8th Ed. 2013 (The Code, updated 2021), and any other legislation, guidelines and conditions imposed by other jurisdictions where applicable.

[ ]  I accept responsibility for the conduct of all procedures detailed in this application and for the supervision of all personnel delegated to perform any such procedures and understand it is an offence to use animals unless approval in writing from the University’s Animal Ethics Committee (AEC) has been received.

[ ]  That all supervisory personnel have read this application and have agreed to comply with procedures described and any conditions imposed by the AEC.I confirm that I have taken into account potential hazards to staff working with animals in this project and have ensured that appropriate safety measures have been implemented.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Subject Co-ordinator Name |  |
| Signature |  | **Date** |  |

## E2) Animal Facilities Signature (if applicable)

***Review the entire application and read the declaration below. Select which option you are confirming and remove the options that do not apply. If you have any concerns or amendments, please advise the Chief Investigator. If you approve, please sign below using your digital signature, and email a copy of this form back to the Chief Investigator.***

**Option 1**

I confirm that:

* The appropriate resources are available or can be obtained in the Animal House/Holding Facility for **ALL** the animals requested for the period of the project.
* The Animal House/Holding Facility staff can provide adequate maintenance and care of the animals during that time.

**OR**

**Option 2**

I confirm that:

* **SOME** of the animals in the Animal House/Holding Facility for the research period nominated, with others to be housed at an alternate facility (details are provided below).
* There will be staff at **both** facilities to provide adequate maintenance and care of the animals during that time.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Number of animals to be housed in the animal house/holding facility |  |
| Additional housing will be provided (if required) at: |  |
| Facility address |  |
| Facility approval representative manager |  |
| Contact email address |  |
| Date |  |
| Signature |  |

**OR**

**Option 3**

I confirm that:

* Housing and staff to provide adequate maintenance and care of the animals are **not** available in the animal house/holding facility for the animals requested during the period nominated.

E3) Animal Manager Signature

I confirm that the animals have been ethically sourced and will be ethically managed/used.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Animal Manager Name |  |
| Signature |  | **Date** |  |

E4) Facility Manager Signature

I confirm that facilities listed in the application are fit for purpose and available for use in this project.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Facility Manager Name |  |
| Signature |  | **Date** |  |

E5) Head of School / Centre Director Signature

***Review the entire application and read the declaration below. If you have any concerns or amendments, please advise the Chief Investigator. If you approve, please sign below using your digital signature, and email a copy of this form back to the Chief Investigator.***

**Declaration**

By signing below, I declare that I have read this application and I confirm the level of internal investment, resources and staff time that has been described is available and sufficient to complete this activity.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| HOS/Centre Director Name |  |
| School or Institute Name |  |
| Email address |  |
| Signature |  | **Date** |  |