

Knowledge that will change your world

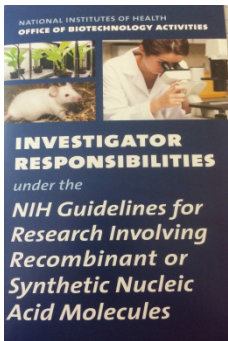
NIH Guidelines Do You Know?



What are the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules?

The NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules (NIH Guidelines) detail safety practices and containment procedures for basic and clinical research involving recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules, including the creation and use of organisms and viruses containing recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules. Click on [Overview of the NIH Guidelines](#) for a basic overview of the Guidelines.

What are my responsibilities?



This [NIH Brochure](#) found here outlines your responsibilities as a PI. Basically, PIs are responsible for full compliance with the NIH Guidelines during the conduct of research involving recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules. Your responsibilities start well in advance of the actual work and cover all aspects of the proposed project. You must immediately report any significant problems pertaining to the operation and implementation of containment practices and procedures, violations of the NIH Guidelines, or any significant research-related accidents or illnesses to the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC), NIH OBA, and other Institutional authorities as appropriate. UAB OH&S [Emergency Response](#) information can be found in section 13 of the Biosafety Manual. A [Reporting Template](#) can be found here.

Does my research require IBC review and approval?

NIH mandates that all non-exempt recombinant projects, regardless of funding agency, be reviewed and approved by the IBC prior to initiation. After approval, any modifications must be communicated to and approved by the IBC. At UAB, all projects that involve the use of Risk Group/Biosafety Level 2 or higher agents must also be reviewed and approved by the IBC prior to work with these agents. Visit [CDC](#) for safety level information for various agents.



How do I get my project reviewed and approved by the IBC?



Please visit the UAB IBC web page to find the Project Registration form and other pertinent Committee-related information. Download and complete the Project Registration form, then submit it along with your grant to projects@uab.edu. Complete submission packets received by the last working day of the month are reviewed at the next month meeting.

Don't know if your recombinant work is exempt or non-exempt?

Visit [NIH Guidelines](#) to determine if your work is exempt or non-exempt. If your work involves animals, the table found [here](#) will help to determine if the work is covered under the Guidelines and must be reviewed and approved by the IBC. If you think your research might be categorized as exempt, the [FAQ](#) located here may help. If it is still not clear how to classify your work, please contact the UAB IBC Director, [Donna Williamson](#) for help.

