

Advancing High Standards in Animal Care and Use

CCAC Recommendations Explained

Following an assessment visit, the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) provides an assessment report to the institution which outlines its strengths and challenges and typically includes recommendations that must be satisfactorily addressed to obtain or maintain certification.

The report contains remarks on the quality of the institution's animal care and use program and describes any concerns noted by the CCAC assessment panel, based on:

- the review of the completed *CCAC Animal Care and Use Program Review Form* and other relevant documents
- meetings with members of the animal care committee, the administration, and other personnel involved in the animal care and use program
- a site visit of the animal facilities

What Does It Mean for an Institution To Be CCAC-Certified?

- Complies with all CCAC policies
- Has a well-functioning animal care committee
- Ensures animal care committee reviews and approves all protocols for animal-based work
- Provides veterinary and animal care services
- Ensures sufficient trained, qualified personnel to care for animals at all times
- Has well-maintained and managed facilities
- Provides training to all animal care personnel
- Keeps updated occupational health and safety and crisis management programs

Formal recommendations in the report are based on CCAC guidelines, policies, and other CCAC-recognized standards. Recommendations are categorized as either major, serious, or regular; the report may also include commendations.



► COMMENDATIONS

Apply to excellent conditions, practices, or personnel in an animal care and use program.



► REGULAR RECOMMENDATIONS

Apply to weaknesses in the animal care and use program. There is no threat to animal welfare. Any measures taken or planned in response to these written recommendations must be reported to the CCAC within six months of the institution receiving the recommendations.



► SERIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS

Apply to significant or long-standing weaknesses in the animal care and use program. There is no immediate threat to animal welfare. Any measures taken or planned in response to these recommendations must be reported to the CCAC within three months of the institution receiving the recommendations.



► MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Apply to an immediate and significant threat to animal health or welfare for which the institution must take immediate, appropriate action. Failure to take such action will result in the removal of the institution's CCAC Certificate of GAP – Good Animal Practice®.

The assessment report is reviewed by the assessment panel and the CCAC Assessment and Certification Committee prior to being sent to the senior administrator responsible for the institution's animal care and use program.

CCAC CCPA

For more information, please visit the CCAC website or contact us