



## Human Subjects Protections: Institutional Biosafety Committee

Area:	Research Integrity	Number:	RI_701
Applies To:	Faculty, Staff and Students	Issued:	06/28/2018
Sources:	45 CFR 46; Public Health Services Policy	Revised:	
		Reviewed:	
Policy Owner:	Provost & Vice-President for Academic Affairs	Page(s):	2

### I. Purpose

Under the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic DNA Molecules (NIH Guidelines), each institution conducting or sponsoring recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid research covered by these Guidelines is responsible for ensuring that the research is carried out in full conformity with the provisions of the Guidelines.

The institution must establish and implement policies that provide for the safe conduct of recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid research and ensure compliance with the Guidelines. The institution must also establish an Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) whose responsibilities need not be restricted to recombinant or synthetic nucleic acids. If the institution is engaged in recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid research requiring biosafety level-3 (BL-3) or higher containment or is engaged in large-scale (greater than 10 liters of culture media) research, it must appoint a Biological Safety Officer (BSO) who shall be a member of the IBC.

### II. Policy Statement

The Georgia Southern University (GS) Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) is a committee appointed by the Institutional Official. The Institutional Official exercises administrative and operational authority to commit institutional resources, enforce policies, authorize necessary administrative or legal action, and otherwise ensure that UNH maintains strong and effective compliance programs. As required by the NIH Guidelines, GS IBC oversees and regulates all research with biohazardous agents and recombinant DNA molecules for research conducted by GS faculty, staff, or students. The IBC has the authority and obligation to stop any activity using biological materials, including but not limited to recombinant DNA and infectious organisms that the committee believes to be unsafe.

It is the policy of the University that all activities involving potential biohazards be conducted in a safe manner in order to protect laboratory workers, students, other persons, our community, and the environment from potentially biohazardous agents and in such a manner that projects conducted by one faculty member will not have an adverse effect on adjacent projects conducted by other scientists.

The IBC oversees and establishes University policy for review and approval of all activities involving the use of recombinant DNA and potentially biohazardous materials to assure compliance with current regulations and guidelines. PIs and/or laboratory supervisors at GS who either store or carry out research or diagnostic activities involving potentially biohazardous

materials must inform the Institutional Biosafety Committee by submitting a Biosafety Protocol approval application and receiving approval prior to beginning the project.

Further, it is University policy that no Risk Group (RG) 4 Agents may be used or stored at GS. No activity requiring BSL4 containment may be conducted in a GS facility. See the NIH Guidelines and CDC BMBL for a list of these agents and definitions.

### **III. Exclusions**

There are no exclusions to this policy.

### **IV. Procedures**

Procedures for the application, review and governance of the Institutional Biosafety Committee are located on the Office of Research Integrity website.