

## Pre-Surgery Certification Checklist

Prior to performing surgery independently, all surgeons need to be observed by OLAC vet staff to confirm proficiency of surgical skills.

- Review the specific Surgical Procedure as described in your lab's ACUC-approved AUP (in eProtocol), including Anesthetics and Analgesics.
  - If procedure includes the use of controlled substances, obtain authorization via EH&S to be added your lab's CSAU list: [EHS/how-do-i-get-authorization-use-controlled-substances-my-research](#)
  - If you do not have the described anesthetics/analgesics on hand, submit a [Pharmacy Purchase Request](#) form on the OLAC website <https://olac.berkeley.edu/menu/forms>

Prerequisites: 3 certifications & training items - sign up here: [OLAC Certifications, Training, & Breeding Info](#)

**1) Certification in Anesthesia** use from OLAC (Please note this must be done separately from your surgery certification)

- Reviewed ACUC [Guidelines for Anesthesia and Analgesia in Laboratory Animals](#)
- Reviewed ACUC [Recordkeeping Guidelines for Surgical Procedures on Laboratory Animals](#)

**2) Certification in Euthanasia** from OLAC

- Review ACUC [Euthanasia Guidelines](#)
- Review ACUC [Guidelines for Humane Endpoints in Animal Studies](#)
- Review Animal Disposition section of your AUP

**3) Attend an OLAC session of "Techniques in Aseptic Surgery & Rodent Pain"**

- Practice procedure on recently euthanized animal
  - Review ACUC [Guidelines for Surgical Procedures](#)**
  - Sterile glove donning video - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E4eJjyK\\_wHo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E4eJjyK_wHo)
  - Review Procedures with Care's "Aseptic Techniques in Rodent Surgery" (Rodents Only) <http://www.procedureswithcare.org.uk/aseptic-technique-in-rodent-surgery-tutorial/>
  - Review Principles of Veterinary Suturing
    - [Suturing Workshop handout](#)
- Once certified for anesthesia, practice terminal surgical procedure in advance (animal is euthanized prior to recovery from anesthesia).
- If you will need an isoflurane machine rental for your surgery certification, don't forget to submit a [Research Services Request](#) form on the OLAC website at least 2 business days prior to your scheduled certification. <https://olac.berkeley.edu/menu/forms>
- When you are thoroughly prepared and trained for your surgical technique, a session for vet staff observation to lead to certification can be arranged. Contact [olactraining@berkeley.edu](mailto:olactraining@berkeley.edu) to schedule this.

During the surgery certification process, the OLAC vet staff will be checking for three broad categories to determine whether or not you pass the certification:

- 1) Are you following proper aseptic surgical technique?
- 2) Are you following what your AUP describes?
- 3) If it is a survival procedure, does the animal recover well and have no complications post-op?

