



GV-SOLAS

Gesellschaft für Versuchstierkunde
Society for Laboratory Animal Science

Guidelines for the accreditation of a training institution for Experts in Laboratory Animal Science (GV-SOLAS)

**From the Committee of Specialist Scientists in
Laboratory Animal Science**

April 2021

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Further training for qualification as an Expert in Laboratory Animal Science is carried out under the competent direction of authorized GV-SOLAS members in approved institutes or other approved institutions (training institutes).

The GV-SOLAS Committee for Experts decides on the approval of a training institute. The approval requires a written application, to which a structured training programme must be attached. Accreditation of a training institute in Germany by the veterinary association of the Land concerned likewise requires an application. To this end, the training authorization is submitted with a brief description of the institution (simplified procedure).

For accreditation as a training institution by GV-SOLAS, the following criteria must be met:

1. The application for accreditation of a training institution must be addressed to the chair of the Committee for Experts. The application is to be signed by the authorized trainer.
2. The person responsible for training must be specially qualified. Authorized trainers may only be experts (GV-SOLAS) or veterinarians specializing in laboratory animal science, as well as holders of an ECLAM diploma (ECLAM: European College of Laboratory Animal Medicine) or FELASA D Specialists in Laboratory Animal Science.
3. At least three of the most common laboratory animal species must be housed at training institution for the long term. The animal species must belong to at least two zoological orders.
4. The housing concept for animals must correspond to the state of the art for laboratory animal science and conform to current legal provisions.

The application for the granting of authorization to provide training is reviewed by at least two members of the Committee for Experts of the GV-SOLAS. Animal housing facilities unknown to the committee are inspected on-site or virtually. The inspection must be documented in an inspection report. Travel costs incurred are to be paid by the applicant's institution. The committee then recommends to the board of GV-SOLAS that the training institute be accredited or rejected.

The GV-SOLAS board informs the committee within a reasonable period (within 3 months) about the accreditation of the training institute or the decision to reject the application. An appeal against the rejection may be lodged with the board in writing within 3 months.

The training institution is regularly reassessed by GV-SOLAS. For this reassessment, the institution must submit a renewed application for accreditation as a training institute without prompting. The accreditation automatically lapses after 5 years, if the above criteria no longer apply or no application is submitted. The authorized trainer must notify GV-SOLAS of changes essential for the accreditation within 3 months. Exemptions are possible on request.

Accreditation or recertification as a training institution is subject to an administrative fee, the amount being decided by the GV SOLAS board.

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