Policy on Minors (not Acting as Students/Employees) in Research Laboratories, Clinics, and Animal Facilities V: 1.0
Approved by the Research Safety Committee 11-10-21 1

Policy on Minors (not Acting as Students/Employees) in Research Laboratories, Clinics,
and Animal Facilities

A. OBJECTIVE

Policy on Minors (not Acting as Students/Employees) in Research Laboratories, Clinics, and Animal Facilities V: 1.0
Approved by the Research Safety Committee 11-10-21 3
5. When this Policy applies, minors are allowed to participate in University programs or science
fairs and access and utilize research spaces when specifically invited to do so by the University
as part of the program or science fair. In these cases, minors must be made aware of and
required to comply with all unit security and access policies and all safety and other directives
of the program or science fair and its staff.

6. When this Policy applies, minors are allowed to access research spaces to conduct research,
including utilizing any equipment in those spaces, only if the following requirements are met in
full:

i. A University employee desiring to request that a minor be allowed access to specific
research spaces under this Policy must initiate the process by filling out this Minor’s
Research Access Form. Among other things, this Minor’s Research Access Form requires:

x Contact information for the Principal Investigator(PI)/sponsor, the minor, the minor’s
parent/guardian, the dean or department head, and the person who will oversee the
minor in the space;
x A clear description of the project in which the minor will participate, the specific
spaces to which the minor will have access, the activities the minor will conduct in the
space, and any hazards the minor may be exposed to, and lab-specific safety training.

ii. The PI, the minor, and the minor’s parent/legal guardian must sign the Minor’s Research
Access Form. The Minor’s Access Form includes the following elements for signature:

x Assurance by the PI they will adhere to the Minors Policies, will provide appropriate
PPE and supervision, and the laboratory is in compliance with UGA safety programs.
x Assurance by the minor that they have read and understand the Policy and the lab-specific Chemical Safety Plan provided by the PI.
x Assurance by the Parent /guardian indicating that they have read the information
provided in the Minor’s Access Form, understand the risks, and consent to the minor’s
access to University laboratories/facilities as identified; and
x Release, waiver, and covenant not to sue for signature by the parent/guardian
x Photo and media release for signature by the parent/guardian

iii. Copies of the completed form are provided to the parent/guardian, maintained in the
laboratory or facility by the minor’s supervisor, and sent to the Office of Research Safety
and, if applicable, the office of the sponsoring program (such as Young Dawgs).

iv. Once the Minor’s Access Form is fully executed, before the minor may access the
requested laboratories/facilities, the minor must:

x Complete any hazard-specific safety training, and completion must be documented by
the person supervising the minor in the space.

Policy on Minors (not Acting as Students/Employees)