

**ACCESS AND
INSPECTION
OF PROPERTY
AND RECORDS**

A registered research facility must permit an inspection of the facility and/or records by APHIS officials and provide a responsible person to accompany the APHIS officials. [2.38(b), 2.25(c), 2.30(d)]

Criteria

Access to conduct an inspection includes:

- entry into place(s) of business
- entry into all areas where regulated animals are housed, used, or held
- entry into all animal areas to search for missing animals
- examination or copying of required records
- documentation of conditions and areas of noncompliance by the taking of photographs or other means
- use of a room, table, or other facilities necessary for the examination of the records and inspection of the property and animals and for completion of the inspection report

If an official of the research facility denies you, the inspector, entry into the place(s) of business or any animal housing, use, or holding area, this should be documented as a refusal of inspection (see Refusal of Inspection - Section 8.6).

If an official of the research facility refuses to allow any of the other criteria for access, such as taking of photographs or copying of records, this should be documented as a noncompliance on the inspection report.

Non-Interference

No one at the research facility must interfere with the inspection process. You (the inspector) do not have to tolerate abusive, threatening, or violent behavior. All threatening behavior should be taken seriously and reasonable preventive or precautionary measures should be taken. [2.25(c), 2.30(d)]

Examples of interference include, but are not limited to:

- physical abuse including:
 - ▶ pushing
 - ▶ shoving
 - ▶ hitting

- verbal abuse including:
 - ▶ yelling
 - ▶ swearing
 - ▶ belligerent language meant to:
 - demean
 - intimidate
 - coerce
 - threaten
- harassment (verbal, physical, emotional, sexual)
- assault or threat of an assault

If **anyone** (registrant, employee, researcher, etc.) at a research facility exhibits threatening behavior, follow the procedures delineated in Section 6.7 - *Workplace Violence*

DO NOT return to a research facility where you have been threatened, assaulted, or abused:

- without appropriate resolution of the incident
- without being accompanied by another APHIS official or law enforcement agent, if appropriate