

# TAKE ACTION TO END ANIMAL SUFFERING AT YOUR SCHOOL

THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

If your school hasn't yet adopted a policy prohibiting severe suffering in animals in laboratories, use these steps to engage your campus to help dogs, cats, monkeys, rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, mice, and other animals who may be used in harmful experiments.

## 1.) **Check out the List of Schools**

If you haven't already, find your school at [www.humanesociety.org/campuspolicy](http://www.humanesociety.org/campuspolicy); then follow the links to take action.

## 2.) **Take it to the Top**

A personal request can go a long way. Try to schedule a face-to-face meeting with your school president so you can explain why having a policy is important to you.

## 3.) **Spread the Word**

Post informational flyers around campus to encourage students, faculty and staff to get involved. The flyers include basic information about why adopting a policy is important for your school. Download them at [www.humanesociety.org/campusadvresources](http://www.humanesociety.org/campusadvresources).

## 4.) **Make the Most of the Media**

Use the media to help spread the word about your school's stance on pain and distress in research animals. Good places to start include your school's student newspaper and/or local newspapers. Let them know via email or phone that you are concerned that the school has not yet adopted a policy and request that they publish an article on the issue. You can also submit an op-ed or a letter to the editor. Check out our writing tips at [www.humanesociety.org/writingtips](http://www.humanesociety.org/writingtips) and be sure to do your research first—facts and figures can be a powerful way of getting your point across. If you've started a petition, you can also use the signatures you've gathered to show that this issue is of concern to many people.

## 5.) **Summon Support**

Getting influential student organizations on board can help create momentum for the cause. Make appointments with a member of the student government association, the faculty council and other relevant organizations to discuss the issue and ask if they would like to provide a letter of support for the school adopting a policy. You can also use these meetings to meet students and faculty members who would be willing to write individual letters of support.

### **6.) Snag Some Signatures**

Create a petition to send to your university's president using our customizable template. When collecting petition signatures, it's important to show that the signatures are those of students, faculty, staff, alumni, parents, or community members who have a vested interest in the activities at your school. To encourage people to sign your petition, carry copies of our informational flyer with you. Download the customizable template and informational flyer at [www.humanesociety.org/campusadvoresources](http://www.humanesociety.org/campusadvoresources).

### **7.) Plan a Peaceful Demonstration**

A demonstration can help motivate supporters while drawing attention to the school's need to adopt a policy, but this action should only be taken if steps 1-6 have not been successful. Before you start planning, it's important to learn about the rules and regulations for demonstrations on your campus. Many campuses have a "free speech zone," outside of which demonstrations are not allowed to occur. At your demonstration, take the opportunity to engage people who are undecided about the issue. Spending time arguing with people who oppose the school adopting a policy will probably be a waste of time and can set the stage for altercations that won't benefit either party.

### **8.) Keep in Touch**

If getting your school to create a policy is important to you, be sure to take advantage of our resources by keeping us in the loop. Contact The Humane Society of the United States at [www.humanesociety.org/animallabcontact](http://www.humanesociety.org/animallabcontact) with your ideas and we'll provide you with support and advice.