



MOUSE HOUSING FAQs

Introductory: The ARC is in the process of transitioning to a per cage, mouse per diem. The new system will result in each standard size mouse cage having a **single** ARC generated cage card and a maximum of 4 mice per cage. The following FAQs should help to demonstrate how the new system works. If you have further questions, please contact the ARC Main Office.

- 1) If we have a cage with 4 mice and want to split the mice into two cages of 2 mice each, how do we get a new cage card for the second cage?**

In this situation, you would leave the cage card from the original cage of four on that cage with two of the mice and fill out an **Additional Cage Card Request Form** for the new cage with the other two mice. See “Additional Cage Card Form Instructions and Example” below.

- 2) If we have 4 mice in a cage and one dies, how do we let the ARC know? Do we turn in a card?**

As long as you have mice remaining in the cage, the cage card stays on the cage. When the last mouse dies or is euthanized, then you date out the card and turn it in to the ARC office or place in the cage card drop box in the facility.

- 3) What if the Vendor sends an extra mouse and to house it we would have to pay for an additional cage with only one mouse in it?**

When new mouse orders are placed with the ARC Main Office, we will be asking if you want to keep extra mice. If you do, we will house them based upon your instructions for the order. If you choose not to keep extras, the ARC will “adopt” these mice for training and/or testing purposes. The extras will be received with your order and immediately transferred to the ARC protocol without reducing the available number on your protocol.

- 4) How does this new system affect the way we wean our mice?**

You will process weans the same way you have been, with one exception. When you are filling out the Wean Request Form, you will need to tell us in the comments section how many cages were set up for each segment (line item) of the wean. This way we will know how many cage cards you need. Please continue to list the quantity of mice in the quantity column.

- 5) If we set up a breeder trio by adding a male mouse to a cage of two females, what do we do about the cage/card the male was in? What happens when the male is removed and put back into his own cage?**

You can add the male to the cage of 2 females without any change to the females’ cage card as long as you still have 4 or fewer mice in the cage. If the male will only be with the females for 24 hours or less, his cage can be left on the shelf with the cage card still attached so that you can return him to the same cage. If the male was alone in a cage and will be in with the females for more than 24 hours, then the male’s cage card should be dated out and the cage removed. When the male goes back to a

6) Instructions for use of the Additional Cage Card Request form.

When requesting additional cage cards, please fill out the form completely (See copy of form below). You will need to fill out one form per cage. This is a two-part form; please leave the back copy (buff card stock) on the cage – this will be the temporary cage card. The pink copy needs to be turned in to the ARC office or placed in the drop box so that the card may be generated.

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ADDITIONAL CAGE CARD REQUEST FOR MICE
FILL IN ALL INFORMATION, LEAVE BUFF COLORED CARD ON NEW CAGE
TURN PINK COPY IN TO ARC OFFICE.

INVESTIGATOR: _____ ROOM # _____

CONTACT: _____

DATE SEPARATED: _____ SEX _____

STD ISO STRAIN: _____

AR/WEAN # _____ ORIG. RECEIVE DATE: _____