



Zoological Association of America
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Why ZAA?



Mission Statement

The Zoological Association of America (ZAA) is a non-profit membership-based accrediting organization dedicated to responsible wildlife management, conservation, and education.

The ZAA upholds the highest level of professional standards in animal welfare, safety, and ethics.



Providing Communities with
Conservation, Education, and
Family Recreational Experiences

About ZAA

The Zoological Association of America (ZAA) is one of the largest nonprofit wildlife organizations in the country, made up of exotic wildlife facilities ranging in size from 2 to 1,800 acres, each with 10 to 8,000 animals in their care. ZAA is truly a unique membership organization, comprised of public and private facilities of wildlife educators, rescue facilities, TV and film industry animal experts, wildlife preserves, small community zoos, large zoological facilities, aquariums, and conservation organizations.

Benefits of Belonging

- Welcoming and collaborative membership organization
- Accreditation program
- Professional development
- Participation in Animal Management Programs (AMP)
- Legislative updates and assistance
- Conservation initiatives and small grants program
- Annual conferences and workshops
- Marketing and public relations assistance
- Crisis management programming
- Networking with colleagues
- Animal surplus list
- Assistance from like-minded colleagues

Accreditation

As part of its core mission, ZAA accredits professional zoological facilities. Through this accreditation process, ZAA's objective is to continually uphold best practices with respect to professional standards and management. Areas that are evaluated during the accreditation process include animal care and husbandry, veterinary care, nutrition, enrichment, security and safety, facility aesthetics and maintenance, record keeping, and a thorough review of policies, procedures, and protocols. Accordingly, ZAA accredited members are among the finest facilities in the United States. The safety record of the organization's accredited institutions is the best of any of the major zoological associations. ZAA's intensive and comprehensive accreditation process is widely recognized by federal, state, and local government agencies.

500+

Members

60+

Accredited
member facilities

ZAA

is one of the fastest growing animal welfare organizations working to uphold the highest professional standards of exotic animal care and welfare

\$4+

million

ZAA contributes to conservation efforts worldwide

\$150
million

combined annual budgets of ZAA organizations which play a significant role in advancing regional economies and encouraging tourism

15+
million

individuals reached through ZAA member organizations each year

8+
million

students in education programs each year

