



EAZA Accreditation Programme – Screener Guide

What is the goal of a screening mission?

As EAZA reinforces its position as the most progressive zoo and aquarium organization in the world, we expect our membership to hold to the highest standards in animal care, conservation education, and facility management as defined by our Codes and Standards. It is your role as a screener to encourage and enforce these standards, and to share your knowledge and experience with fellow EAZA member facilities through hands-on screening missions.

Your participation in the EAZA Accreditation Programme is very much appreciated, and acknowledged, and we look forward to working with you.

What is the role of the EAZA Executive Office (EEO) in the screening mission?

- All travel arrangements (flights, train, etc) and accommodation will be handled in advance by the EEO
- Personal costs (drinks, meals, etc) will be reimbursed through the EEO.
- A rapporteur from the EEO will be on hand for every aspect of the mission, including screenings, meetings and dinners. (S)He will take notes during the site visit, inform you of all required tasks, keep to the visit schedule, take photos and serve as spokesperson for the entire screening mission. Any problems that arise will be handled by the rapporteur.

What is expected of me as an EAZA screener?

- To evaluate a zoo or aquarium facility according to the established EAZA minimum standards through a guided site visit, conversations with leadership and staff, and evaluation of documents.
- To complete a screening team questionnaire and agree on an accreditation recommendation.
- Confidentiality, professionalism and neutrality must be maintained at all times.

Before Visit

- Confirm travel information and reply to correspondence by EEO coordinator.
- Review current EAZA Codes and Standards.
- Review screening team questionnaire.
- Review attached application documents for background on the institution.

During Visit

Arrival

- Coordinator from EEO or rapporteur will inform you on arrival times and commuting arrangements.
- You will begin with an orientation meeting with rapporteur.
 - Rapporteur will inform you about the schedule for the screening day(s).
 - Rapporteur will explain process of screening and what acceptable/questionable/unacceptable ratings mean.
 - Screening team will share initial impressions and any initial questions about the accreditation documents or facility itself.

Screening Tour

Screeners are to keep the following subjects in mind when touring facility, reviewing paperwork or asking questions.

Back office – Meeting with managerial staff and reviewing documents

- Funding and financial support
- Staff education and development
- Organizational structure and management
- Master plans
- Collection plans
- Emergency plans and protocols
- Acquisition, exchange and transport
- Participation in conservation, research, and EAZA supported breeding programs.
- Animal care/veterinary records

Walking Tour – entire facility, including back areas and off site facilities.

Physical Facilities

- Public accessibility
- Non-animal attractions
- General repair and cleanliness
- Enclosure safety and maintenance
- Management of sewers and waste
- Safety of public, staff and animals

Animal Care

- Water and food access
- Displays and off-show areas
- Life support systems
- Enrichment and behavioral needs
- Species-specific needs
- Nutrition and food handling
- Daily animal care records

Veterinary

- Facilities and equipment
- Staff education and knowledge
- Necropsy
- Capture and firearm equipment
- Drug management

After Tour

- Filling out Questionnaire- EAZA Rapporteur and screeners will sit down and fill out the screening questionnaire and make decision on recommendation. Please know that your comments and recommendation about the facility will be kept confidential.
- Reimbursement requests will be taken by the rapporteur and settled, if possible, or recorded for the EEO to reimburse in a timely manner.

After Visit

- Read and comment on official EAZA accreditation report, created by rapporteur and emailed to screener.
- After approval by you and your fellow screener, the report will be submitted to the Membership and Ethics Committee and Council, who will make the final decision on accreditation.