



1965-2025

Preparing for a Site Visit—For Institutional Leadership

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Director--USA



Celebrating sixty years!

Outline

AAALAC Overview

Value of AAALAC Accreditation

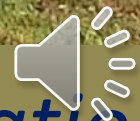
Accreditation Process



Because we care

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Consideration, Communication, Compassion.
Thank you for all you do every day to create a “Culture of Care”—an
environment that supports animal and human well-being in science



Assessment. Accreditation. Education.

Mission:

- AAALAC International improves the welfare of animals in science and education through the accreditation of organizations meeting high standards of humane and responsible animal care and use

Vision

- A world where excellence in animal welfare and science converge.



The Accreditation Program

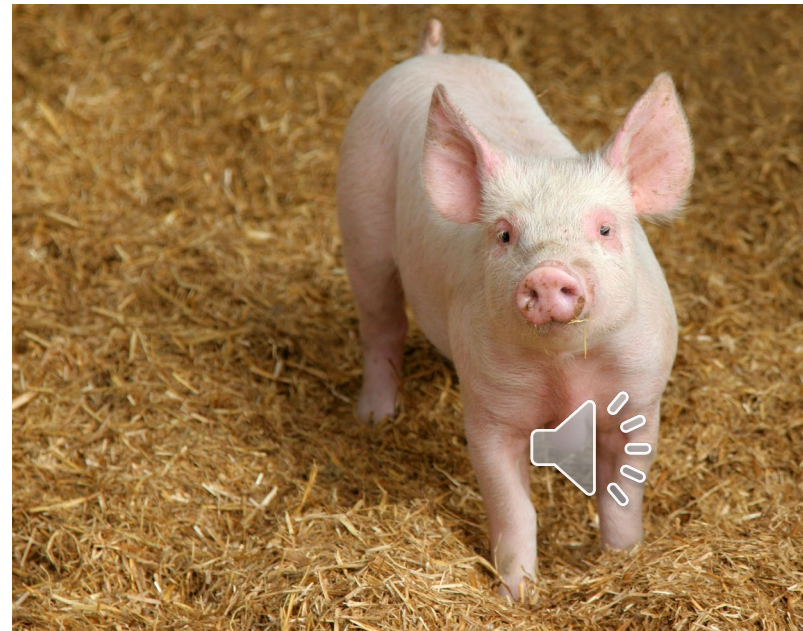
- ✓ completely confidential
- ✓ performance-based
- ✓ a peer-review process



Who does AAALAC Accredit?

Programs using any animal
species in science and
education

Includes traditional
laboratory animals,
farm animals, wildlife,
and aquatic animals



Value of Accreditation

“Attainment of accreditation demonstrates that an institution's animal care and use program maintains a standard of excellence beyond the minimums required by law.

Accreditation also demonstrates an institution's accountability and its efforts to promote sound ethical practices.”



Value Of Accreditation

Improved Research Quality and Outcomes

Enhanced Animal Welfare, Reduced Variability, Support for Funding



Value of Accreditation

**Enhanced Credibility and
Reputation**

**Public Assurance,
Stakeholder Trust, Improved
Public Trust**



Value of Accreditation

**Compliance and Operational
Efficiency**

**Compliance Assurance,
Continuous Improvement,
Streamlined Operations**

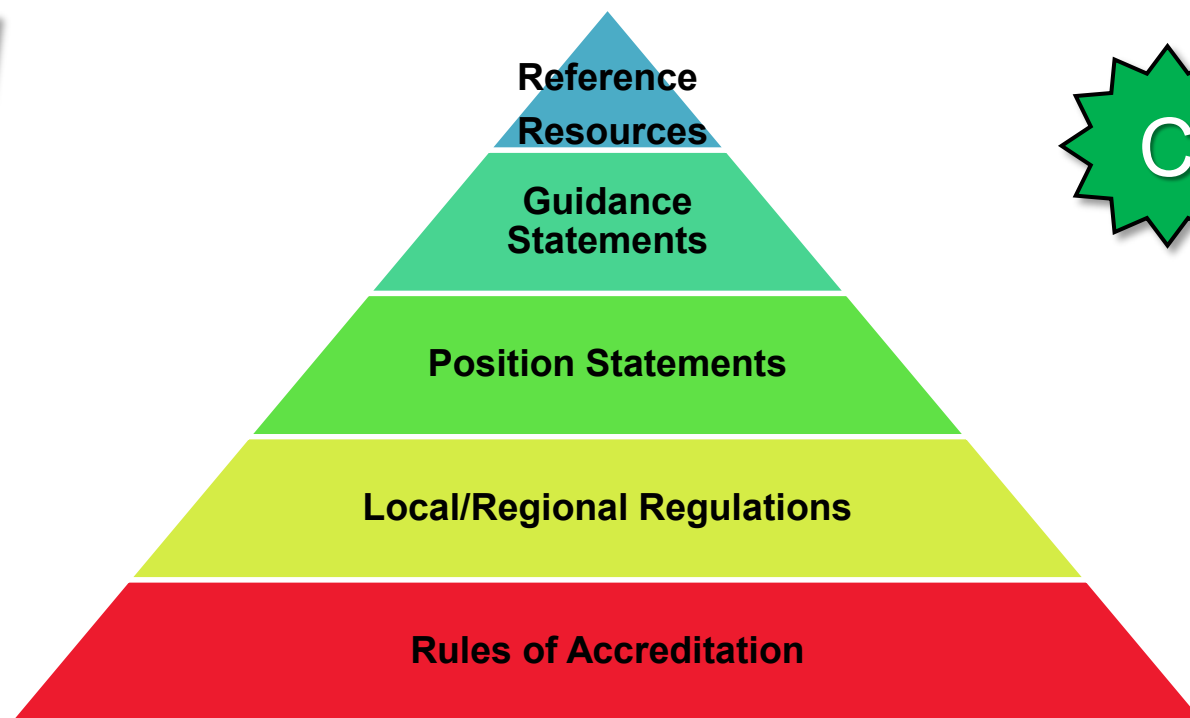
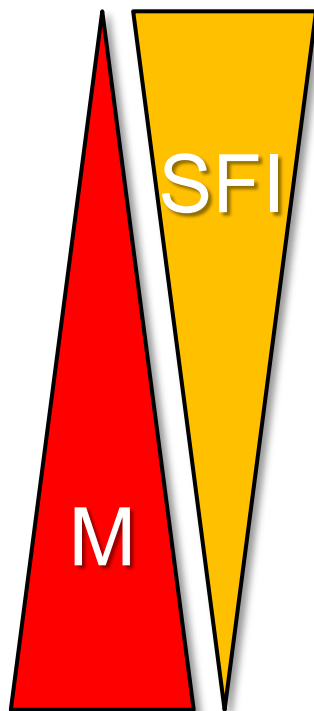


Value of Accreditation

Global Recognition and Collaboration

**Harmonized Standards
International Recognition**





AAALAC's Standards



Position and Guidance Statements

Position Statements

Supplemental requirements and recommendations on selected topics

Clarify AAALAC expectations and support consistent interpretation

Used in accreditation to inform findings and, in some cases, commendations

Primary Purpose / Typical Outcome: Promote consistent application of expectations; may contribute to Mandatory Findings or recognition of exemplary practices

Guidance Statements

Clarification where questions commonly arise

Clarify expectations when standards are not explicit

Used in accreditation to inform findings and more commonly support Suggestions for Improvement

Primary Purpose / Typical Outcome: Provide direction and clarification; typically support program enhancement and continuous improvement

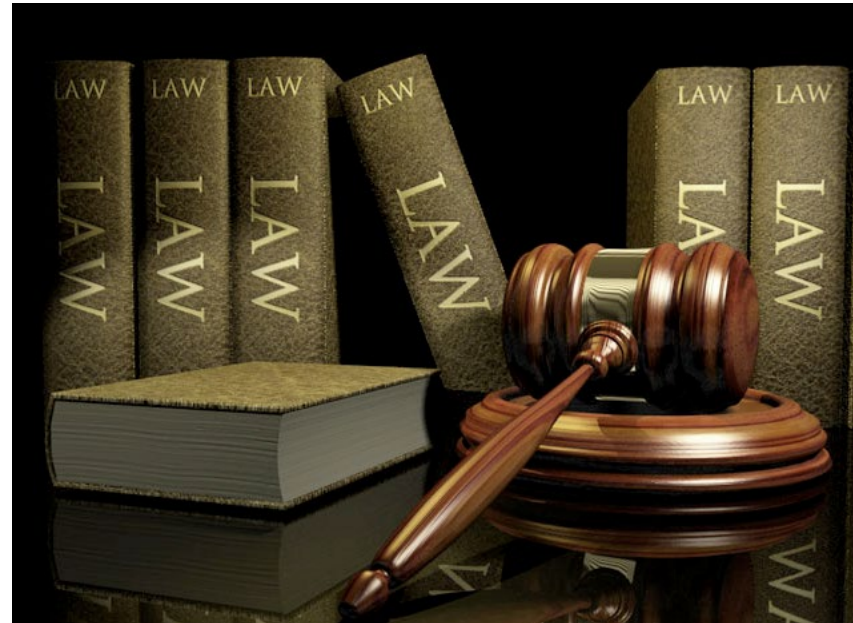


How to Determine Which Standards to Follow



Engineering Standards

- Defined, objective, measurable
- Often included in legislation as requirements
- Example: minimum cage dimensions; environmental conditions, composition IACUC/OB...



What Are Performance-Based Standards?

- ❖ Define outcomes, not rigid methods
- ❖ Focus on achieving thriving animals and strong programs
- ❖ Allows institutional flexibility



Accreditation Process



Self Evaluation

Development of Program
Description



Site Visit

Peer Review Assessment



Council Deliberations

Council Determines
Accreditation Status



Key Program Components

Administration

Occupational
Health and
Safety

Veterinary Care

IACUC/Oversight
Body

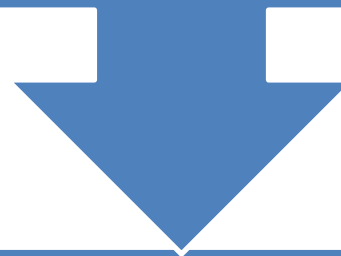
Physical
Plant/HVAC

Animal
Environments



**Institutional
Administration Role
During the Site Visit**

Demonstrate
engagement in the
program



Attendance at the

Entrance
Briefing

Exit
Briefing



Culture of Care

Affirms
AAALAC's
commitment to
recognizing a
proactive
compassionate
approach to
animal care.



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High Standards of Humane and Responsible Animal Care

For more
information...

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A world where excellence in
animal welfare and science
converge.





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Thank you!

aaalac.org | accredit@aaalac.org

