

CAZA Terminology

Policy

This is normally a detailed, formal description of the considered position and views of the Association on a major issue (Animal Acquisition and Disposition, Sustainability, etc). An association policy requires the approval of the membership; it will include a description of the context, a detailed description of its application and the implications for the association and its members. Policies are intended for the guidance of the CAZA membership but are also public documents, and are made available on the website and through other means.

Position Statements

This is intended as a clarification of the views of the Association with respect to a particular issue or question. It can and normally is used to clarify or interpret our position for the benefit of the public, the news media, interest groups or others. It is not intended as a formal statement of association policy that is binding upon the membership, nor does it have direct application with respect to questions of ethics or accreditation decisions.

Policy Specification

A policy specification is an element that is mandatory in nature. It sets out in the clearest possible terms a required practice, and direct application in accreditation considerations. It may also have implications for ethics case decisions in cases in which a standard is not respected

Policy Recommendations

As contrasted with a policy specification, which is mandatory, a policy recommendation is permissive, and can be interpreted in light of particular circumstances, based upon the professional judgment of an expert. It is considered to be a form of a recommendation for suggested best practice, but may be varied in its application. A policy recommendation does not have implications for ethics determinations, but may be taken into account in accreditation decisions.