



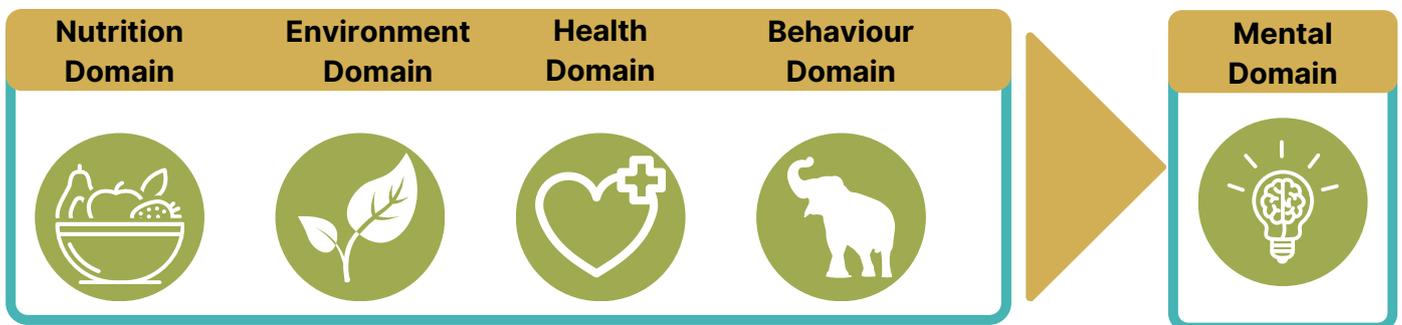
**Zoo and
Aquarium
Association
Australasia**



ZAA Accreditation: Animal Welfare

The Five Domains Model is a science-based structure for assessing animal welfare. It recognises that animals can experience feelings, ranging from negative to positive.

The first four domains all help inform us about an animal's various experiences, which make up the Mental Domain, the fifth domain.



Government Regulation



By law, the government requires zoos and aquariums to meet minimum standards to protect animals from having a bad life.

ZAA Accreditation



The ZAA Accreditation Program goes further, using the Five Domains to focus on good welfare. It asks the question: is the animal having a happy life?

The Program assesses ZAA members' commitment and achievements towards positive animal welfare. It requires them to think deeply about the welfare of the animals in their care and strive for continuous improvement.

The Accreditation Process

1



Members must provide compelling evidence for set criteria on both their operations and the experiences of their animals.



Assess operating systems



Assess animals' experiences



Provide evidence

2



This evidence is reviewed by the ZAA Accreditation Team in the office

3



One of our expert Accreditation Officers visits the zoo or aquarium in person to validate the findings.

4



Accreditation reports are presented to the Standards and Accreditation Committee.

5



The ZAA Board must endorse the Committee's recommendation for approval before accreditation is officially granted

ZAA-accredited zoos and aquariums operate to the highest levels. They must be assessed every three years to retain their accreditation status. International members are assessed yearly.