The Redwood Coast AAZK Professional Development Grant:

Non-Travel Professional Development

**Submission Instructions and Requirements**

Statement of Purpose

The Redwood Coast AAZK Non-Travel Professional Development Grant is designed to assist RCAAZK members with the costs associated with acquiring professional development opportunities that do NOT require travel. Such opportunities include, but are not limited to online courses, professional materials, and memberships to professional organizations.  To qualify, the applicant must be a Redwood Coast AAZK member in good standing and demonstrate 1) the value of participating in this resource, 2) how it will contribute to their professional goals and growth, and 3) how it will benefit the Redwood Coast AAZK chapter and/or Sequoia Park Zoo.

Scholarships will be offered to acquire an alternate resource related to professional development in the field of zoos/aquaria, wildlife, conservation, animal care, ecology, or interpretation/education in these fields. The number of scholarships offered will depend on how many members apply and the availability of funds. Applications will be due by 11:59pm on **June 1, 2019.**  Applications will be accepted from all RCAAZK members, including new and experienced keepers, zoo staff, students, and community members. Applicants must submit a completed application form; incomplete or late applications will not be considered. All application materials must be submitted digitally via email to junglejackmock@gmail.com

**Application Evaluation Procedures**

Examples of qualifying uses for this grant (not an exhaustive list):

* Professional membership (e.g. AAZK, AZA, ZAA, ABMA, IAATE, IMATA, EAZA, Zoo Registrars Association, Wildlife Conservation Society, Feline Conservation Federation, International Primatological Society, Animal Training Academy, Animal Training Fundamentals)
* Certification courses
* Journal subscriptions (often come with the professional memberships listed above)
* Webinars (e.g. Animal Training Academy, Animal Training Fundamentals)

Applicants will be evaluated based on 1) their dedication to the field of zoos/aquaria, wildlife, conservation, animal care, or ecology, 2) the applicability of the resource to the applicant’s career goals, 3) their involvement with recent AAZK projects, 4) the relevance of the professional development opportunity, and 5) the professionalism of their application. The Professional Development Committee will review all applications and submit their scores. All applicants will be notified of the status of their application no later than June 22nd.

**Grant Details**

• Funds will be allocated upon request by the recipient; all original receipts must be signed and submitted to the Chapter Treasurer within 7 days of purchase (and within one year of grant issuance).

• The resource being utilized should occur or be available within one year of issuance of the grant. If the opportunity is canceled, a reasonable alternative may be presented to the Professional Development Committee for consideration as a substitution.

• A minimum 10-minute presentation must be given to the chapter within **3 months** of completing your professional development activity. (If this is a membership to an organization, you could discuss or demo what resources are available on their website, what type of information their journals include, what discounts you might receive, etc.) As an alternative to the presentation, if your activity is an online course, you are encouraged to invite other chapter members to participate with you in the course via taking the course in tandem or watching the webinars as a group. If you would prefer to lead a workshop and the Professional Development Committee approves your request, the workshop content and materials must be approved by the committee prior to the meeting.

• Prior grant recipients are not precluded from applying in subsequent years, provided they have successfully completed all of the requirements for their previous award.

• Failure to comply with any of the above-mentioned regulations may result in the revocation and subsequent repayment of the grant at any time and additionally may be grounds for ineligibility from future scholarships.

**Redwood Coast AAZK Non-Travel Professional Development Grant**

Redwood Coast American Association of Zoo Keepers

3414 W Street

Eureka, CA 95503

Please email application to junglejackmock@gmail.com with the subject header “RC AAZK Non-Travel Professional Development Grant\_(name of applicant).” Applications must be received by June 1, 2019 at 11:59pm.

**Name** **Phone**

**Address** **Email**

**Resource name /date (if applicable)**

**Estimated cost**   **Amount requested**  **Have you requested any additional funding?** Yes No **If Yes, how much?**   **From whom?**

**Are you a National AAZK member?** Yes No

**Have you been a member of the Redwood Coast AAZK chapter for the past 12 months?**

Yes No **If not, for how many months have you been a member? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**In the last 12 months, how many general RCAAZK chapter meetings have you attended?**

**Have you previously applied for an RCAAZK grant?** Yes No

**If yes, were you awarded funds?** Yes No

**List in detail any Chapter/National activities and Chapter/National committees you have actively participated in over the past twelve months:**

**Please give a detailed description of this professional development opportunity. For instance, what is the organization/conference/workshop’s mission or goal? What will participants be learning? How are the skills relevant to zoos/aquaria, wildlife, conservation, animal care, ecology, or interpretation/education in these fields? (Reviewers are not expected to research this opportunity to understand its relevance to the field.) (200 word max)**

**If you are a student: what is your major, and how does this professional development relate to your career goals (300 word max)?**

**If you are not a student: describe your professional goals and how this resource will help you achieve those goals (400 word max).**

**Explain how your utilization of this resource benefits Sequoia Park Zoo and/or furthers all or part of RCAAZK’s mission to support conservation, encourage environmental stewardship, and enhance animal care (500 word max).**

**Please provide a detailed list of the following:**

1. Non-AAZK activities that you have participated in over the past 12 months that support conservation, encourage environmental stewardship, or enhance animal care
2. Previous conferences, workshops, or seminars attended
3. Professional awards or related recognition received