

Remaining an Informed Colleague

Your commitment to peer review requires you to maintain an awareness of evolving standards and best practices in the field. AAM supports you in this effort through

- *NEWStandard: A Resource for AAM Peer Reviewers*, a biannual newsletter that provides insight on field-wide discussions and references on specific issues, opportunities for professional development, and updates on changes within the peer review, MAP, and Accreditation programs
- a peer reviewer-only section of the AAM Web site, www.aam-us.org/peer-review, which is upgraded frequently. It includes:
 - program criteria, policies and procedures, forms, and other materials, including this manual
 - electronic copies of *NEWStandard*
 - references and resources to assist your work and broaden your understanding, including standards developed by related organizations
 - materials from past peer review workshops
 - opportunities to participate in program related discussions
 - information on the Excellence in Peer Review Service Award and a list of past recipients
- this *Peer Review Manual*, which contains a collection of references that provide a basic understanding of critical areas of museum operations—a great resource for searching for information about a new topic or for a museum that is going through MAP.

Other AAM resources include:

- AAM's Web Site (www.aam-us.org) provides access to the bookstore, professional education and annual meeting information and registration, MAP and Accreditation program information, and the Information Center.
- AAM's Bookstore includes more than 250 books, videos, and audiotapes on a wide variety of museum-related topics. In addition, technical handbooks outline procedures for various aspects of museum work.
- Annual Meeting and MuseumExpo™, the most comprehensive conference and exposition for museum professionals
- Professional Education Seminars provide additional professional education opportunities throughout the year on a variety of topics in different cities around the country.
- Information Center offers all AAM members online resources that provide guidance on museum operations, standards & best practices, and emerging issues. Note: access to sample documents and the customized reference services of the Information Center are only available to institutional-member museums.

There are many other opportunities to engage in the field-wide discussion on standards and best practices through a variety of regional, state, local, and discipline-specific museum organizations. Links to many of these organizations can be found on the AAM Web site. Contact the peer reviewer manager if you have any questions.