



How Do I Begin?

The 4-day Hoof Health Workshop for Zoo Professionals is the starting point for those seeking the professional designation of Certified Zoo Hoof Care Professional.

Hoof Health Workshop participants receive extensive hands-on, supervised trimming instruction. Importantly, however, the Hoof Health Workshop is a hoof care clinic, not just a trimming clinic. Hoof health is determined by many factors. Trimming is one important element. But hoof health and shape are also significantly influenced by management practices, and environmental and lifestyle factors. Deficiencies in these areas can undermine the efforts of even the most highly skilled trimmer. It is imperative that hoof care providers understand this basic premise and, importantly, know that problems caused by such factors cannot be fixed by trimming. Instead, the root cause of the problem must first be addressed. Then, proper trimming can facilitate healing. Consequently, Hoof Health Workshop participants receive extensive information about how management practices, and environmental and lifestyle factors affect hoof health. Upon completion of the workshop, participants receive a Certificate of Participation.

For more details about the Hoof Health Workshop for Zoo Professionals: Trimming and Beyond, visit <https://liberatedhorsemanship.com/zoo-workshop/>

Then What?

Our hoof health training doesn't stop there. LH Zoo continues to offer support beyond the initial Hoof Health Workshop.

Online Community

Once a month LH Zoo hosts an online Zoom call to discuss topics that affect hoof health. These calls take place at 3:00 Eastern Time on the Third Friday of each month. (No fee).

Capstone Project

Challenge yourself with a project designed to reinforce information about management practices, and environmental and lifestyle factors that affect hoof health. Identify specific ways these concepts apply to the ungulates in your care based on concepts introduced in the workshop. We will post prompts to help get you started and the online community is available for ongoing support. Participants who complete a Capstone Project will receive a Certificate of Accomplishment. (No fee)

Field Instruction

Field instruction is available to help you transition the trimming skills you learned at the Hoof Health Workshop to working on live animals. It is an opportunity to hone your trimming skills under the direction and supervision of a highly-skilled professional trimmer with years of experience.

Field practicums are times to gain practical information about every aspect of hoof trimming, tool use and maintenance, and healthy body mechanics. The fee for each field practicum is currently \$300. You are also responsible for your travel costs.

Program participants seeking certification are required to complete two days of field instruction trimming horses; one day with Ann Corso (606-224-0466 or anncorso@me.com) in Missouri or Kentucky. Then one day with either Steve Hebrock (330-813-5434 or steve@enlightenedequine.com) in Ohio or one day with Dora Hebrock (505) 803-2319 or dora.hebrock@icloud.com) in New Mexico. You can register for field practicums at <http://liberatedhorsemanship.com/fieldinstruction/>. Please contact the instructor to schedule your training date before registering online.

On-site Coaching at your Home Zoo

LH is the only hoof care training program with a career zoo keeper and Certified Zoo Hoof Care Professional as a member of its faculty. Cindy Hall is not only an excellent trimmer and instructor she also understands best practices in training, safety, and handling currently in use at zoos.

After you have completed the two required field practicums, LH Zoo Hoof Care Instructor, Cindy Hall, will travel to your zoo to spend a day of instruction with you. Contact Cindy at chall@napleszoo.org or (239) 777-6656 to make arrangements.

Based on your day of coaching with Cindy, the two of you will develop a plan and a time frame for your Final Field Assessment.

The cost for your day of coaching with Cindy is \$575 plus the cost of travel and accommodations.

Final Field Assessment

The proof is in the pudding, so to speak. The final assessment for Zoo Hoof Care Professionals requires an on-site evaluation with Certified Zoo Hoof Care Professional, Cindy Hall. Cindy will make a second visit approximately 90 days after the first on-site coaching session. She will spend the day observing your trimming sessions and discuss your observations and suggestions for improving hoof health at your facility. The cost for this visit is \$575 plus travel and accommodations.

Cindy will evaluate your skills as well as the hooves. If the evaluation is satisfactory, you will earn the credential of Certified Zoo Hoof Care Professional. You will receive a Certificate of Achievement stating you have successfully completed the LH Zoo training program for Zoo Hoof Care Professionals. In addition, you will be listed as such on the Liberated Horsemanship website as an acknowledgment of your accomplishment. There is no associated fee for this listing.

Scheduling and Cost

Although there is no time constraint for completing the steps to certification, it is possible to complete the entire certification program in under 1 year.

This program can be paid for one step at a time. However, we have found that some sponsoring organizations prefer to pay for all instruction and final assessment up front for budgeting purposes. If this is the case, please contact Bruce Nock at brucenock@me.com or Ann Corso at anncorso@me.com to arrange for invoicing. Currently, the cost for the entire program is \$3200 plus student travel and accommodations for field instruction and Cindy Hall's travel and accommodations for on-site instruction and final assessment.