

ACCESS Paleo SoCal Internship Mentors

Synopsis of Program: The Advancing Community College Education and Student Success in paleontology project, or ACCESS, is a collaborative project created at the University of California Museum of Paleontology (UCMP) to build collaborations with local community colleges to increase access to STEM fields like geosciences & paleontology for students from historically excluded and underrepresented groups and communities. ACCESS Paleo SoCal is a branch of the project developed in collaboration between the Alf Museum and UCMP aimed to provide opportunities for students in Southern California.

The ACCESS Paleo SoCal internship is intended to recruit students from historically excluded and underrepresented groups or communities (including but limited to: students of color, students part of the LGBTQIA+ community, first generation college students, and students from low-income families) who seek to transfer to four-year institutions in pursuit of a degree in paleontology, museum science, and other related fields. Preference will be given to students who have not yet had extensive internship experiences prior to applying for this program.

Program Description:

During this 7-week program, mentors will gain experience mentoring community college students as part of the ACCESS Paleo Internship. Mentors will assist museum staff in introducing interns to topics such as fossil conservation, research, and science communication. Mentors will also assist in intern fieldtrips, workshops, and transfer application sessions.

Application period:

March 1 – March 30, 2022.

Selected applicants will be notified by April 15, 2022.

Mentorship Details:

Mentorships are a part-time commitment (21 hours/week Tuesday - Thursday) for a consecutive seven-week period between June 28 – August 11, 2022. A stipend of \$4,000 will be provided at the start of the internship.

- Mentors will be sent a 1099 tax form for their 2022 tax filing.

Eligibility Information:

Mentors must:

- Be currently enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate student at a 4-year institution majoring in biology, geology, or other natural history related field. Preference will be given to students who had attended or transferred from a 2-year community college.
- Reside or attend college in Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, or Riverside counties
- Be a United States citizen or legally authorized to work, study, or reside in the US.

COVID-19 Policy:

The Raymond M. Alf Museum of Paleontology is located on the campus of The Webb Schools and follows all campus policies regarding COVID-19. Selected mentors must be able to provide proof of vaccination and/or boosters or valid exemption to participate in the program, consistent with Webb policy at the time of the program. Mentors will be required to always wear masks while indoors and during field trips. Daily health screenings through the Passport app will also be required. This is subject to change based on the advice or directives of the local, state, and/or federal government, and our medical advisory board.

Application Preparation and Submission Instructions:

Applicants should provide the following and complete the application by March 30, 2022.

- ACCESS Paleo SoCal application and completed questions.
- Proof of enrollment in your current institution (unofficial transcript, student ID, etc.)

Selected applicants must complete the following by June 6, 2022:

- Live Scan criminal background check
- W-9 Tax Form
- Proof of COVID-19 vaccination, including boosters (or valid exemption)

Funding:

Funding for this internship was generously provided through the David B. Jones Foundation.

For questions about the program such as eligibility or application process, please email Gabriel Santos at gsantos@alfmuseum.org