



# PHILIP J. CURRIE DINOSAUR MUSEUM

**Position:** Fossil prep lab volunteer

**Organization:** Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum

**Type of Work:** Preparing fossils for the purpose of research, education and display

**Immediate Supervisor(s):** Assistant Curator/Collection and Research Technician

**Time Span:** Limited to only available work space

**Description:** Fossil Prep Lab volunteers work under close supervision of the Assistant Curator and the Collections and Research Technician and will be taught how to properly prepare and identify fossil material. Volunteers work with dental picks, scalpels, and toothbrushes to remove dirt and rock from the bone surface, and with adhesives to stabilize and reassemble fragile and broken fossils. Preparation notes are recorded throughout the process and individual work stations are to be cleaned at the end of each session. Tools and safety gear are provided, however volunteers must come equipped with closed toe shoes.

Drop-ins are welcome, although volunteers are asked to commit to at least two hours per session as fossil preparation is a slow process.

**Volunteer Duties:**

- Use dental picks, scalpels and toothbrushes to remove sediment from the fossil surface
- Reattach fossil fragments and stabilize fossils with glue
- Record preparation notes
- Clean individual work station at the end of each session

**Good qualities to have:**

- A steady hand
- Good eyesight with or without correction aids
- Patience
- A willingness to learn