Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
Dinosaur Institute Summer Internship in Fossil Conservation

Summary: This internship will focus on developing student skills and experience in vertebrate fossil conservation and museum science. An emphasis will be placed on fossil preparation and labwork within the Dinosaur Institute (DI), with ancillary training in specimen curation and digitization. Enrichment activities will include museum seminars, workshops, and tours, as well as the possibility of participation in field expeditions. The goals of the program will be to develop workforce-related skills in fossil conservation and broad experience in museum collections care, utilizing an approach that follows the “life of a fossil” through collection, preparation/conservation, documentation, and curation.

Term: 8-week term, with flexible start/end dates to accommodate different academic calendars and student responsibilities. Initial proposed dates are June 3rd – July 26th.

Salary: Students will be hired as part-time employees at NHMLAC, with an expectation of 18-24 hours of work over 3-4 days each week, at a rate of $20/hr. Students will receive standard part-time employee benefits (e.g., Employee Assistance Program, Commuter Benefits, 403b). The internship will also include travel and housing.

Eligibility: Applicants should be full-time undergraduate students currently enrolled in good standing at either Howard University, or the University of Chicago.

Application: Students should submit a cover letter of interest (no more than one-page), with a current CV, including contact information for two references. Applications should be submitted via email to Dr. Nathan Smith (nsmith@nhm.org) by April 19, 2024. Decisions on candidates can be expected by the end of April.

Resources: www.nhm.org/research-collections/departments/dinosaur-institute