



Fossil Preparation Course Application

Once dinosaur fossils are excavated, what happens then? Most people don't realize this is when the hard work really begins! Finding and excavating a dinosaur represents about 20% of the total time before the animal is ready to exhibit. Preparing the fossil in a controlled environment is extremely important before the specimen is ready for research. This is where the Dino Lab comes in. It is the official repository for all specimens collected by the Judith River Dinosaur Institute (JRDI). The lab is about 7,000 square feet of space with state-of-the art preparation equipment. Many scientists and preparators wished they had a facility such as this to work in! The Dino Lab prepares fossils recovered by JRDI teams.

To join us for a Fossil Preparation Course please read all the information, complete and sign the application form below.

Note to Parents:

We have hosted many high school and college students over the years, producing over a dozen students who are now involved in paleontological careers. It is not necessary for a parent or guardian to attend. We've handled minors for years and have parent references upon request. However, **minimum age for kids is 16**. Sorry, we cannot make an exception no matter how mature the child due to insurance liability requirements.

If you plan for a child **age 16-17 to attend**, a parent or guardian must complete the application form listing each child and their age.

Mail the completed and signed application form with a check for 50% of the fee as a deposit to:

The Judith River Dinosaur Institute
PO Box 80051
Billings, MT 59108

Name: _____ Age: _____

Additional Participants:

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Email: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Occupation: _____

Fossil Preparation Course:

Week #1 – October 20-23, 2026

Week #1 – March 23-26, 2027

Week #2 – March 30-April 2, 2027

Fee Per Person \$895

Number of Participants: _____ X \$895 = TOTAL COST \$ _____

50% Deposit Enclosed with this Completed, Signed Application: \$ _____

PARTICIPANT RULES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

It is important that you indicate here any disabilities, physical limitations and/or preexisting medical conditions that we should know about, including, but not limited to: respiratory or heart conditions, rare blood type, asthma, epilepsy, diabetes, allergies to dust, pollen, etc., and any instructions for unusual medications.

I have no medical conditions. I have the following medical condition(s) (please list)

Lunch will be provided each day. If you have medical, religious, or personal diet restrictions please indicate here: (NOTE: We can make reasonable accommodations but you are responsible for special dietary needs. We cannot guarantee to be able to meet all needs during the class.)

I have no dietary restrictions. I have the following dietary restrictions (please list)

1. The undersigned, as a participant in the course, will adhere to the highest standards of social and scientific behavior as deemed by the staff of the Dino Lab. Dino Lab staff reserves the right to require withdrawal, at any time of any participant whose behavior or health jeopardizes themselves, the welfare of fellow participants, or the fulfillment of the course goals. Refunds are not issued in these cases.
2. The undersigned has read the information concerning the course and accepts any risk thereof. The undersigned also hereby agrees for the undersigned's dependents, heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, to release and hold harmless the Dino Lab, its respective staff, officers, employees, agents, or representatives from any and all damage resulting from participation in the course.
3. I, the undersigned, indemnify and hold harmless the Dino Lab, its staff, officers, employees, agents, or representatives from any loss, liability, damage or costs that may be incurred due to the acts or omissions of any participant in the course.
4. The undersigned further states and affirms that they are aware of the fact that the course, even under the best of conditions possible, may be hazardous; that he/she assumes the risk of any and all loss of, or damage to, property and/or bodily injury, including death, however caused, resulting from or arising out of, or in any way connected to the course; that he/she is of legal age and is competent to sign this Participant Rules and Responsibilities statement (for 16 -17 year old, this must be signed by a parent or guardian); and that they have read and understood all of the provisions herein contained.
5. **All minors without a parent or guardian in attendance need to supply a medical release form including current insurance information signed by a parent or guardian.**

I VERIFY I HAVE READ THIS STATEMENT: Initial here _____

6. The undersigned releases to the Dino Lab, all rights to use their likeness promotionally if photographed or videotaped during participation during the course.
7. The undersigned will not duplicate, or allow to be duplicated, any images, handouts, materials, videotape, etc., or use for commercial purposes, any images collected as a participant of the program without the express written permission of The Dino Lab.
8. By signing here or having your name listed above, it is understood that all signed or listed have read and will comply with the rules of the Dino Lab Fossil Preparation Course at the Dino Lab.

Sign here: _____

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

No application will be considered without a signature here, initials above and the deposit payment enclosed.

The Judith River Dinosaur Institute
PO Box 80051
Billings, MT 59108

Email: nate@jrди.net

Conditions and Policies

1. This fully completed application together with the 50% deposit does not guarantee your acceptance in the course or the date of choice. You will be contacted by email to inform you of your acceptance or what dates are available should your week already be filled. Please note that the remainder of your fee (the \$895 less the 50% deposit you submit with this form) is due 30 days before class begins - without exception.
2. Families are especially welcome and encouraged to attend. All individual applicants must be at least 18 years of age at the time of signing this application. Applicant's age 16-17 are welcome with consent of a parent or guardian.
3. Dino Lab reserves the right to decline application for any reason.
4. REFUND POLICY: In the event that you are unable to participate, the deposit is refundable only if notification is received **90 days prior to class**. Refunds are not transferable to other programs or courses. If the Dino Lab cancels any course a full refund will be issued. If circumstances beyond the Dino Lab's control delay the course (i.e., due to weather) the associated costs due to such delays will be their own responsibility.
5. **What is included with fee: Instruction, lab tools, transportation to Dino Lab, lunch.** All lab material and equipment will be provided. You are welcome to bring your fossil specimens for preparation during the course.
6. What is not included in your fee – your transportation from home to Billings, MT, accommodations and meals (other than lunch) while in Billings.
7. The Dino Lab accepts no responsibility for travel (or its arrangement) to and from Billings, MT to attend this course.
8. Personal property (baggage, etc.) of the participants is the sole responsibility of the individual participant.

If you have further questions call us at **(406) 696-5842** or email nate@jrди.net