



ASM POLICY ON QUALIFICATIONS OF PALEONTOLOGICAL PROJECT DIRECTORS

*Arizona Board of Regents Policy Manual, Rules Implementing A.R.S. § 15-1631 and § 41-841 et seq., The Arizona Antiquities Act, Policy Number 8-202(C)(1)(f)*

Review of permit applications entails evaluation of “the professional qualifications of the project director.” The requirements are presented below and accompanied by ASM’s explanations and examples.

**8-202(C)(1)(f)(1). A graduate degree in paleontology or geology, or equivalent training or experience.**

“Equivalent training or experience” must total at least two years, and means at least one year of supervised paleontological field experience and one year of supervised work in the identification, analysis, and synthesis of paleontological data.

**8-202(C)(1)(f)(2). A demonstrated ability to plan and conduct research based on contemporary paleontological method and theory.**

This requirement may be met by a dissertation or a thesis on a case-by-case basis; a chapter, report, or other publication that contains paleontological analysis; or four months, minimum, as a field supervisor at the level of crew chief or above.

**8-202(C)(1)(f)(3). At least four months of supervised paleontological field experience and at least four months additional experience in the identification, analysis, and synthesis of paleontological data.**

Supervised experience can be at the crew member, field technician, crew chief, or field supervisor level; this means that the prospective PD was not the project’s principal investigator. On a case-by-case basis, field school experience will be considered as meeting a portion of this requirement.

Identification means laboratory experience; this can be academic or private sector work. Analysis and synthesis of paleontological data means report preparation. Combined, identification, analysis, and synthesis of paleontological data must total four months.

**8-202(C)(1)(f)(4). At least one year of full-time professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of paleontological remains.**

“Professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of paleontological remains” means survey and excavation at the level of crew chief or above, and must include report preparation.