

Qualifications for Certification of Archaeological and Paleontological Principal Investigator

I. Archaeology - Minimum Qualifications

- A. Must meet the minimum qualifications for a Professional Archaeologist/Principal Investigator as defined by the Secretary of the Interior (SOI). Visit SOI website for more details.
- B. Possess certification and be in good standing with the Register of Professional Archeologists.
- C. Minimum 5 years of experience with field survey, excavation, artifact cataloging and/or analysis, site recording to applicable government or ministry standards, reporting, and/or GIS/mapping.
- D. In addition, one-year of local Southern California prehistoric archaeological experience or one-year of local Southern California historic archaeological experience.

II. Paleontology - Minimum Qualifications

- A. A graduate degree in Paleontology, Geology, Biology, or a closely related field, **and** a publication record in peer reviewed journals; a demonstrated competence in field techniques, preparation, identification and curation of fossils, as well as reporting in California, comprising at least one full year of profession level experience (fieldwork experience or other paleontological work pertinent to environmental review requirements), major components for which the individual had principal responsibility; or

Graduate degree in Paleontology, Geology, Biology, or a closely related field **plus at least three years of professional-level experience** in paleontological fieldwork, analysis, and project management. Experience must include administration, project oversight, and demonstrated ability to carry projects to completion in compliance with applicable regulations.
- B. Membership in good standing with a professional paleontological society with codified ethics standards concerning the handling of fossils, such as the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology.
- C. Demonstrated proficiency in recording and communicating the lithologic, geospatial, and stratigraphic context of a fossil.
- D. Demonstrated competence in field techniques, preparation, identification and curation of fossils, as well as reporting in California,
- E. Expertise in Southern California geology, stratigraphy, and biostratigraphy.
- F. Proficiency in recognizing fossils in the field and determining their significance.

- G. At least one full year of experience collecting vertebrate fossils in Southern California.
- H. Demonstrated ability to carry research studies and reports to completion in a timely manner.

III. Application Submittal Requirements

Qualifications for each certification is evaluated based on submittal of an application, as administered and reviewed by OC Public Works (OCPW), which may seek additional review by a qualified organization, individuals or other entities. Submit your application through the OC Development Services website at https://myoceservices.ocgov.com/LMS_Link. Should you have any questions please submit an email to ocpwpermitting@ocpw.ocgov.com.

Application Submittal Packet should include:

- A cover letter summarizing qualifications and interest.
- A current Curriculum Vitae.
- At least one authored report that demonstrates technical competence.
- At least one professional reference.