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Graduate Studies

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Professional paleontologists normally only obtain full-time positions in museums and universities after they complete their graduate studies. It is possible to approach the study of vertebrate paleontology, including dinosaurs, by specializing in either biology or geology, but the selection of an appropriate university is often determined by the choice of a thesis supervisor. If an undergraduate student has a specific interest in dinosaurs, he or she should contact the experts in those fields before deciding to which graduate school to apply. Currently, the highest concentration of graduate schools that include research on dinosaurs are found in the United States [i.e., Brigham Young University, Columbia University, Harvard, Montana State University, Southern Methodist Uni-

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versity, State University of New York at Stony Brook, Yale, and the universities of California (Berkeley), Chicago, and Pennsylvania], Europe (Cambridge, Oxford, Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Universität Bonn, and University of Bristol), and Canada (McGill University and the universities of Alberta, Calgary, and Toronto). Graduation with a doctoral degree is no guarantee that a student will obtain a job directly related to dinosaur paleontology, but the opportunities are greater today than ever before.