Policy for Personal Photography, including Engagement and Family Photos:

Fernbank Museum of Natural History allows photos to be taken on the property by individuals and/or professional photographers for personal use, including family photos and wedding announcements. The photos may not be used for any commercial ventures.

Everyone taking part in the photo session, including family members, engaged couples, the photographer, photo assistants and anyone else accompanying the group must pay museum admission. Wedding couples who have a signed contract to host their ceremony or reception at the Museum may contact their event coordinator for details on photo shoots without additional payment. All other personal photography sessions require the purchase of tickets for everyone involved*.

(*Museum members receive free museum admission for those individuals included on the membership.)

All photo shoots are only available during regular museum hours: (Monday-Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday: noon to 5 p.m.) Please note that there are often programming days offered in the Great Hall or in other Museum areas, so please check the online calendar if you are concerned about having tables and/or activities set up in areas of the Museum, including the Great Hall or Dinosaur Entrance Plaza. We are unable to issue refunds due to high volume attendance or event activity.

As a family attraction and an educational facility, Fernbank’s top priority is our visitors’ enjoyment of their museum experience. Therefore, photos should not interfere with our visitors’ ability to access areas of the museum. No blocking of stairwells, exhibitions, common areas, traffic flow or other disruption is permitted, and appropriate attire is required. If your photo shoot affects regular museum operations or is not conducted in a professional manner, you may be asked to move or cease photography.

If you will be bringing lighting or other equipment that requires set-up, you must request permission in advance by emailing media.relations@fernbankmuseum.org at least 3 business days in advance.

If your photo shoot is more extensive than simple photography or if you think it may cause any disruption to regular operations, you must submit your request in writing to media.relations@fernbankmuseum.org at least 3 business days in advance with details on arrival time, date, and other pertinent details to ensure Fernbank’s security team is aware of your photos. Site fees may be assessed based on size of shoot, time on premises, disruption to traffic flow and other factors.

If you are unsure if your photo shoot needs additional consideration or if you have any additional questions, please contact media.relations@fernbankmuseum.org.