

## **FORENSIC SCIENTIST II – DNA ANALYST**

Bureau of Criminal Identification

Division of Criminal Investigation

Salary Range: 113 (\$41,749 - \$66,799)

Duty Hours: 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, with flexibility to meet Department needs.

**DEFINITION:** An employee in this job class is responsible for performing professional scientific work of marked difficulty analyzing a wide variety of physical crime scene evidence to assist law enforcement officials in the investigation of crimes. Work is performed under the direction of the Crime Laboratory Supervisors. Work requires a high level of concentration and includes exposure to body fluids, toxic chemicals and noxious odors. Work is reviewed by observation of procedures performed and through written reports on test results.

### **EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:**

- Performs analytical tests and examinations on a wide variety of crime evidence materials including: drugs, controlled substances, clothing, physiological fluids and fire debris analysis (arson) materials by operating various laboratory instruments.
- Operates laboratory instruments including but not limited to: the Gas Chromatograph/Mass Spectrometer, the Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrometer, microscopes, balances, centrifuges, crime-lites, genetic analyzers, thermocyclers, DNA extraction robots, and computers, etc.
- Interprets laboratory test findings and prepares written reports indicating tests performed and test results, explaining test procedures and answering questions posed by law enforcement officials, prosecuting and defense attorneys.
- Prepares solutions, buffers and reagents by using balances, pH meters and laboratory glassware.
- Communicates regularly with law enforcement officials and attorneys to receive evidence and explain analyses and conclusions.
- May provide expert testimony in courts stating laboratory test results, explaining the meanings of test results, explaining test procedures and answering questions posed by prosecuting and defense attorneys.
- Logs crime scene evidence in and out of the crime laboratory; assists with the destruction of evidence as directed by court order.
- Remains current in the field of forensic science by reviewing scientific journals, attending seminars, conferences and professional organizations.
- Successfully conduct and complete one proficiency test annually in each discipline of expertise or two annually for DNA.
- Performs related work as required.

### **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:**

- Considerable knowledge of crime laboratory methods, techniques, equipment and materials.
- Considerable knowledge of the principles and practices of chemistry and biological sciences.
- Considerable skill in performing tests and analyses of a variety of substances and materials according to generally prescribed procedures.
- Considerable skill in interpreting laboratory test data.
- Considerable skill in operating laboratory equipment and instruments.
- Considerable skill in providing expert witness testimony in a court of law on test findings of physical crime scene evidence.
- Ability to activate and de-activate the Police Crime Laboratory security system.
- Skill and ability to successfully complete assigned proficiency tests.

- Ability to communicate effectively with law enforcement officials, attorneys, medical examiner personnel and the public.

**TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE:**

Graduation from an accredited college or university with at least a Bachelor's Degree (BA/BS) in biology, chemistry or forensic science related field of study. **Must have received credit in courses in genetics, biochemistry, and molecular biology (molecular genetics, recombinant DNA technology). The analyst should also have course work and/or training in statistics and population genetics. The above listed subject areas must consist of nine or more cumulative semester or equivalent hours and two years experience as a forensic scientist in a crime laboratory.** Must have successfully completed a documented Forensic DNA Training Program from an accredited laboratory with a minimum of two years DNA casework experience. A minimum of four years experience is preferred. Must have testified as an expert in a court of law to forensic DNA testing results.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:**

Possess a valid State Driver's License and the ability to operate the Mobile Crime Laboratory Vehicle. Possess State of Missouri alcohol testing permit as required by specific discipline.