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(208) 884-7018

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Forensic Scientist - DNA Database

ISP Forensic Scientist 1

[Idaho State Police](#)

Open for Recruitment: November 17, 2009 - December 6, 2009

Announcement # 07432064441

Salary Range: \$ 21.65 - \$24.90 per hour [-Plus Competitive Benefits!](#)

Location(s): Meridian

The successful applicant will be required to complete a background investigation and polygraph examination, which includes drug screening. Please see the Idaho State Police Drug Policy at the end of this announcement.

This position is grant funded and is a limited service position. Current duration of funding is three years.

The Forensic Scientist 1 is an entry-level position, which will work under the direct supervision of a more experienced Forensic Scientist. The Forensic Scientist 1 position converts to a Forensic Scientist 2 position upon successful completion of a specified training program, and two (2) years in the Forensic Scientist 1 position. An experienced scientist who meets the minimum qualifications and *qualifying work experience of the DNA Forensic Scientist 2 will be certified upon completion of a qualifying examination and the six-month probationary period. Pay will be adjusted accordingly at the time the incumbent is certified as a Forensic Scientist 2.

*Qualifying work experience for the DNA Forensic Scientist 2 includes a minimum of two (2) years working independently, planning, managing, and prioritizing forensic biology/DNA caseloads; successfully engaging in independent research, evaluation, and validation activities associated with forensic biology/DNA; performing and documenting a range of examinations regarding human DNA (preferably STR) analysis of casework and/or DNA database samples; providing training and consultation services to professional criminal justice and scientific audiences; and testifying as an expert regarding forensic/database DNA examinations, as applicable.

Responsibilities:

- Receive, document, and track samples obtained from qualifying Convicted Offenders for inclusion in the state and national DNA database
- Complete a training program in DNA analysis and technical review of Convicted Offender samples, acquire new skills, and improve techniques.
- Conduct DNA (STR) testing on Convicted Offender samples and enter associated profiles into the DNA database (CODIS), while working closely with advanced forensic scientists.
- Work closely with the State CODIS Administrator regarding database activities and sample confirmation/verification.
- Participate in routine quality control measures, instrument maintenance and troubleshooting, as needed.

- Maintain established standards of laboratory cleanliness, safety, and efficiency.
- Perform examinations following defined SOPs and other quality standards.
- Participate in the evaluation and validation of methods and/or instrumentation as it relates to the analysis of Convicted Offender samples.
- May provide expert opinion and witness testimony regarding scientific analysis of Convicted Offender samples.

Minimum Qualifications:

A baccalaureate degree in biology, chemistry, or a closely related science field. Coursework must include biochemistry, genetics, and molecular biology. Additionally, the successful candidate must obtain training and/or attend a course in statistics and population genetics as it applies to forensic DNA analysis prior to completion of the training program (if requirement not already satisfied).

Note: The successful candidate will be required to obtain certification by the American Board of Criminalistics or the International Association for Identification within three (3) years of being selected for or promoted to a Forensic Scientist 2 position.

Ranking Items: The following are not minimum requirements for this position. If you do have experience in any of these areas, be sure to include them on your resume as it may increase your score:

- Experience working as a scientist in a professional laboratory environment, experience performing independent study/research activities, or work study/internship experience in a forensic laboratory (preferably in DNA for each).
- Coursework or training in statistics/population genetics as it applies to forensic DNA analysis.
- Mixture interpretation training and/or experience as it relates to forensic DNA casework analysis.
- CODIS software training and/or experience either as an analyst, or administrator.
- Diplomat and/or Molecular Biology Fellow with the American Board of Criminalistics.
- Degree held in a biological science.

Examination:

Resume and transcript review of your education and experience. Your application materials will be reviewed and a rating assigned. Applicants must receive a minimum rating of 70 to pass this examination. Notification of your test results will be available online when the review process is complete. Applicants submitting paper applications will receive written notification of test results.

In order to be accepted for the position of ISP Forensic Scientist 1 DNA Database, you must have the requisite degree and coursework as described above. The courses used to meet the biochemistry, genetics, statistics, and molecular biology requirements must be identified. A written course description or syllabus from a university or college "Course Catalog" is required for the classes determined to meet the biochemistry, genetics, statistics, and molecular biology requirements, in which course titles are something other than those listed. It is essential that the information you provide emphasize education, experience and positions held that

are directly related to the requirements noted in this announcement. We encourage you to provide a narrative summary of how you meet each of the Minimum Qualification areas followed by your resume. Providing more thorough, detailed information may help increase your score.

In order to be accepted for the position of ISP Forensic Scientist 1, you must have the requisite degree as described above and you must provide a copy of your college transcripts to verify your degree and coursework. A course description or syllabus must be provided to verify the content of any required courses that have titles other than those listed above. Submit your college transcripts and course descriptions to the Idaho State Police Human Resource Office for verification no later than the closing date. **Applications without the supporting transcripts and relevant course descriptions will not be accepted.** ("Official" transcripts are not required at this time.)

- You may fax them to (208) 884-7090, Attn: Human Resources, OR
- You may email them to becky.harris@isp.idaho.gov, OR
- You may mail them to: Idaho State Police, 700 S Stratford, Meridian, ID 83642, Attn: Human Resources

How to Apply:

Click on any **Apply Online** button and follow the instructions provided to complete the Application Checklist. Copy and paste your customized resume into the field provided under the Qualifications and Exams section of the Application Checklist. If you are unable to use the Apply Online process, submit a customized resume with your completed State of Idaho Application. To obtain a paper application, click on "Forms" at the top of the screen.

When updating your online application information, please select [Idaho State Police](#) under "Agencies," [full-time](#) under "Job Type/Shift," and [Meridian](#) under "Cities."

[Idaho State Police Drug Policy](#)

The Idaho State Police does not consider for employment, nor accept as a volunteer, any person:

1. Who is a current user or seller of illegal controlled substances;
2. Who has on any occasion illegally manufactured or delivered a controlled substance, as defined by Section 37-2701, Idaho Code;
3. Who has on any occasion used LSD;
4. Who has illegally used any controlled substance by injection;
5. Who has illegally used marijuana on more than twelve (12) occasions; or within the three (3) year period immediately preceding application for ISP employment;
6. Who has illegally used any controlled substances defined in the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, Article II including but not limited to amphetamines, methamphetamine, cocaine, anabolic steroids, hallucinogens, opiates or other narcotics on more than two (2) occasions; or within the five (5) year period immediately preceding application for ISP employment;

7. Who has engaged in "huffing" of any substance including but not limited to gasoline, glue, paint, and paint thinner, which are capable of causing a condition of intoxication, inebriation, excitement, stupefaction or the dulling of the brain or nervous system as a result of the inhalation of the fumes or vapors of such chemical substances; on more than two (2) occasions; or within the three (3) year period immediately preceding application for ISP employment;

8. Who has used any illegal drug while employed in any law enforcement or prosecutorial agency, or while employed in a position which carries a high level of responsibility or public trust;

9. Who has been found guilty by a court or jury of driving while under the influence of intoxicants within the five (5) year period immediately preceding application for ISP employment.

[Preview Exam](#)

OVERTIME NOTICE:

At the discretion of the appointing authority, compensatory time off may be provided in lieu of overtime cash compensation.

Hiring is done without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age or disability. In addition, preference may be given to veterans who qualify under state and federal laws and regulations. If you need special accommodations to satisfy testing requirements, please contact the Division of Human Resources.