



# Forensic Scientist I

Salary Group: B20

Class Code: 6052

<u>CLASS TITLE</u>	<u>CLASS CODE</u>	<u>SALARY GROUP</u>	<u>SALARY RANGE</u>
<b>FORENSIC SCIENTIST I</b>	<b>6052</b>	<b>B20</b>	<b>\$45,158 - \$73,788</b>
FORENSIC SCIENTIST II	6053	B21	\$48,278 - \$78,953
FORENSIC SCIENTIST III	6054	B22	\$51,614 - \$84,479
FORENSIC SCIENTIST IV	6055	B23	\$55,184 - \$90,393
FORENSIC SCIENTIST V	6056	B24	\$59,004 - \$96,720
FORENSIC SCIENTIST VI	6057	B25	\$63,104 - \$103,491

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Performs entry-level forensic science work. Work involves conducting laboratory tests, conducting analyses, and identifying physical evidence from crime scenes; interpreting analytical results; establishing and maintaining records pertaining to casework and court testimony; preparing technical reports; and testifying as an expert witness in court. Works under close supervision, with minimal latitude for the use of initiative and independent judgment.

## EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Conducts laboratory tests and performs analysis to compare and identify physical evidence from crime scenes.

Conducts chemical tests and analyses of gunshot residue.

Conducts shotgun spread pattern tests and visible powder burn determinations for distance determination, or conducts paper edge examinations for cutter marks.

Prepares metals and other materials for visual and microscopic examinations to restore data eradications or obliterations and latent writing impressions.

Prepares casework and receives, catalogs, and files evidence.

Prepares technical reports concerning results on examinations conducted.

Serves as an expert witness in court regarding the results of the analyses of physical evidence.

Participates in conducting proficiency testing to ensure the validity of evidence testing.

Assists in conducting macroscopic, microscopic, and physical examinations of evidence.

May assist in crime scene investigations.

May conduct chemical analyses on suspected controlled substances and prepare chemical solutions.

May conduct analyses of blood and breath for alcohol content and of stains to determine the presence of animal or human blood, its type, and genetic markers.

May conduct examinations and comparisons of hair, paint, cloth, and fiber; and examine clothing to retrieve and identify physical trace evidence.

May perform maintenance checks on breath-testing equipment; and establish and maintain records of maintenance, court testimony, and breath-test operator certifications.

May perform latent print identification work.

May function as a member of a disaster team.

Performs related work as assigned.

## **GENERAL QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES**

### **EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION**

Experience in forensic science work. Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with major coursework in chemistry, physical science, criminal justice, or a related field is generally preferred. Experience and education may be substituted for one another.

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

Knowledge of principles, techniques, and procedures of related forensic science disciplines; methodologies and techniques used in fingerprint identification; proper evidence and hazardous chemical handling procedures; criminal court proceedings and rules of evidence; and weapons and ammunition.

Skill in the use of laboratory equipment and materials, and the use of a computer and applicable software.

Ability to conduct microscopic and macroscopic examinations, to prepare reports, to recommend improvements in methodology and equipment, to conduct crime scene investigations, to perform instrumental chemical analyses, and to communicate effectively.

### **REGISTRATION, CERTIFICATION, OR LICENSURE**

May require registration, certification, or licensure in a specialty area.