



Forensic Scientist III

Salary Group: B22

Class Code: 6054

<u>CLASS TITLE</u>	<u>CLASS CODE</u>	<u>SALARY GROUP</u>	<u>SALARY RANGE</u>
FORENSIC SCIENTIST I	6052	B20	\$45,158 - \$73,788
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 moderately complex (journey-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 general supervision, with limited latitude for the use of initiative and independent judgment.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

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

Conducts macroscopic, microscopic, and physical examinations of evidence.

Conducts instrumental chemical analyses of drug evidence to identify controlled substances.

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

Conducts examinations of clothing to retrieve and identify physical trace evidence.

Determines weight, diameter, and other measurements of bullets to determine the make and caliber of the gun from which they were fired and to determine ammunition brand, type, and compatibility.

Determines bullet trajectories, cartridge case ejection extraction patterns, and bullet entry and distance factors.

Identifies weapons by make, caliber, type, and class characteristics.

Prepares technical reports concerning results on examinations conducted.

Researches new advances and techniques in forensic examinations.

Provides instruction on forensics to law enforcement groups, schools, and other entities.

Maintains relevant case and testimony records.

Participates in conducting on-the-scene investigations and crime scene reconstructions.

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

May coordinate the analysis of comparing handwriting for determination of authorship.

May conduct experiments or research with new procedures and techniques.

May maintain records and coordinate laboratory examinations and court appearances.

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; forensic principles, techniques, and procedures; criminal court proceedings and rules of evidence; weapons and ammunition; and trace evidence, serology, toxicology, drug analysis, and alcohol testing methods and techniques.

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.