



# Forensic Scientist V

Salary Group: B23

Class Code: 6056

<u>CLASS TITLE</u>	<u>CLASS CODE</u>	<u>SALARY GROUP</u>	<u>SALARY RANGE</u>
FORENSIC SCIENTIST I	6052	B19	\$42,244 - \$68,960
FORENSIC SCIENTIST II	6053	B20	\$45,158 - \$73,788
FORENSIC SCIENTIST III	6054	B21	\$48,278 - \$78,953
FORENSIC SCIENTIST IV	6055	B22	\$51,614 - \$84,479
<b>FORENSIC SCIENTIST V</b>	<b>6056</b>	<b>B23</b>	<b>\$55,184 - \$90,393</b>
FORENSIC SCIENTIST VI	6057	B24	\$59,004 - \$96,720

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Performs highly complex (senior-level) forensic science work. Work involves overseeing crime laboratory work, tests, analysis, and identification of physical evidence; interpreting analytical results; developing and instructing staff on new techniques and procedures; preparing technical reports; and testifying as an expert witness. May supervise the work of others. Works under limited supervision, with considerable latitude for the use of initiative and independent judgment.

## EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Oversees and/or conducts forensic and crime laboratory work, tests, analysis, and identification of physical evidence.

Oversees and ensures that laboratory facilities and equipment are maintained and acquires and maintains safety equipment and supplies.

Oversees the security, retention, and proper destruction of evidence according to agency and statutory guidelines.

Coordinates and/or examines and analyses criminal cases; and macroscopic, microscopic, and physical examinations of evidence; and crime scene investigations.

Prepares and reviews technical reports of scientific examination results.

Develops and/or evaluates new techniques and procedures and instructs staff in their use.

Provides instruction on forensics to law enforcement groups, schools, and other entities and instructs law enforcement staff on laboratory functions and procedures.

Requisitions laboratory equipment, apparatus, and chemicals.

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

Plans casework and coordinates work assignments.

Identifies complex chemical and biochemical compounds using analytical laboratory equipment.

Reviews laboratory reports and work records for accuracy and compliance with laws and regulations.

Researches new advances and techniques in forensic examinations.

May supervise the work of others.

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; of methodologies and techniques used in fingerprint identification; of proper evidence and hazardous chemical handling procedures; of forensic principles, techniques, and procedures; of criminal court proceedings and rules of evidence; of weapons and ammunition; of trace evidence, serology, toxicology, drug analysis, and alcohol testing methods and techniques; of training methods; and of public communication techniques.

Skill in the use of laboratory equipment and materials, and in 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 obtain, interpret, and present results of examinations and analyses; to plan, coordinate, organize, develop, and conduct research in the development of new and improved criminalistics, toxicological, serological, drug analysis, and alcohol testing techniques and procedures; to communicate effectively; and to supervise the work of others.

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

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