

**MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT  
POLICE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION  
Forensic Scientist I, Forensic Scientist II, Forensic Scientist III  
\$47,424.00 to \$90,979.20 Annually**

**Job ID: 1673**

**Full/Part Time: Full-Time**

**Open: August 6, 2010 until sufficient applications are received**

**ABOUT US**

*City of Mesa Mission*

We are dedicated to providing superior services to our customers in order to improve the quality of life for Mesa residents, businesses, and visitors.

*Police Department Mission*

Your Police Department, dedicated to working with you, fighting crime, defending human rights, and protecting life and property, to make our community safe for all.

The City of Mesa respects, values, and welcomes diversity in our workforce. To this end, we encourage all interested people to apply.

**ABOUT THE POSITION**

*First review of applications: Thursday, August 26, 2010.*

THE CURRENT VACANCY IS IN THE BIOLOGY UNIT. The next review of applications will be Thursday, August 26, 2010. You may be requested to submit your unofficial college transcripts during the interview process.

A Forensic Scientist I at Pay Range 46 (\$47,424.00 - \$64,043.20 annually) is responsible for applying the physical sciences to the investigation of crimes by learning to perform laboratory examinations of physical evidence submitted to the Police Department Forensic Services Section. An employee in this class receives extensive training under direct supervision for the duties listed under the common duties section.

A Forensic Scientist II at Pay Range 49 (\$55,161.60 - \$74,464.00 annually) performs specialized forensic evaluations utilizing chemical, microscopic, and chromatographic techniques and instrumentation to examine, identify, and evaluate physical evidence. A Forensic Scientist II is recognized as an expert in at least one area of forensic science, which may include blood alcohol analysis, controlled substance identification, toxicology, serology/DNA, arson, or trace evidence analyses. A Forensic Scientist II may conduct field investigations at crime scenes to search for, collect, and preserve evidence for laboratory analysis, and reconstruct situations and physical evidence of a crime in the demonstration of proof of the connection of persons, instruments or materials with the crime. This class is considered a journey-level position in the Police Department Forensic Services Section.

Forensic Scientist III at Pay Range 53 (\$67,371.20 - \$90,979.20 annually) performs highly specialized forensic evaluations in connection with the identification and comparison of physical evidence submitted to the Forensic Services Section. The scientific analyses performed involve utilizing chemical, microscopic, and chromatographic techniques and instrumentations to examine, identify, and evaluate physical evidence. A Forensic Scientist III operates, maintains, programs, and interprets data from highly technical and/or computerized instrumentation such as an automated blood alcohol analysis system, a gas chromatograph/mass spectrometer, or DNA related equipment. Further responsibilities include preparing and conducting officer training; assisting with the development and monitoring of a quality assurance program; conducting field investigations at crime scenes; troubleshooting; maintenance and validation of instrumentation; method development and validation; consulting and coordinating with experts, police officers, and attorneys.

Common duties for the three classifications include: utilizing chemical, microscopic, chromatographic and comparative techniques and instrumentation to examine, identify and evaluate physical evidence which may include: hair, fibers, fabrics, suspected drug-containing substances, fire debris, paint, glass, soil, blood, urine, other biological substances. Additional duties include: performing serological examinations in order to identify bloodstains according to origin; interpret comparative data from highly technical DNA examinations to determine the source of submitted specimens; reviewing GC/MS data to identify various substances; perform immunoassay techniques for screening of blood or urine samples for presence of drugs; entering data into the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS); preparing technical reports, preparing findings for court presentation, and testifying concerning scientific facts. A Forensic Scientist I may progress by noncompetitive promotion to the classification of Forensic Scientist II and, Forensic Scientist II may progress to Forensic Scientist III after successful completion of all requirements stipulated in the criteria-based promotion plan, which include four years of forensics experience for Forensic Scientist II and seven years of forensics experience for Forensic Scientist III. All classes are FLSA exempt-professional.

### **ABOUT THE QUALIFICATIONS**

*Minimum Qualification(s) Required.* Forensic Scientist I - Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's or advanced degree in Biology/Biochemistry, Chemistry, Forensic Science or a closely related natural science, and 9 semester hours of college coursework covering biochemistry, genetics, and molecular biology.

*Minimum Qualification(s) Required.* Forensic Scientist II - Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's or advanced degree in Biology/Biochemistry, Chemistry, Forensic Science or a closely related natural science, and 9 semester hours of college coursework covering biochemistry, genetics, and molecular biology. At least four years experience in a crime laboratory as a Forensic Scientist I or equivalent; and acceptance as an expert witness in court in at least one forensic discipline.

*Minimum Qualification(s) Required.* Forensic Scientist III - Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's or advanced degree in Biology/Biochemistry, Chemistry, Forensic Science or a closely related natural science, and 9 semester hours of

college coursework covering biochemistry, genetics, and molecular biology. At least seven years experience as a Forensic Scientist in a recognized laboratory actively engaged in the forensic sciences; experience testifying in court as an expert witness; and state-of-the-art expertise in a specialized area of criminalistics.

*Special Requirement(s). Forensic Scientist I, Forensic Scientist II, and Forensic Scientist III -* Because of the confidential, sensitive nature of information handled, successful completion of a background investigation and polygraph is required. Must possess a valid Arizona Driver's License by hire date.

*Preferred/Desirable Qualification(s). Forensic Scientist I, Forensic Scientist II, and Forensic Scientist III -* Experience as a Criminalist/Forensic Scientist in an American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB) accredited laboratory actively engaged in the forensic sciences and testifying in court as an expert witness. Master's Degree with 12 semester hours from a combination of undergraduate and graduate course work covering: biochemistry, genetics, molecular biology, statistics and/or population genetics.

## **ABOUT THE PROCESS**

**PLEASE SEE THE INFORMATION LINK ON THE CITY JOB OPENINGS WEBSITE AT [WWW.MESAAZ.GOV/JOBS](http://WWW.MESAAZ.GOV/JOBS) REGARDING DETALIED INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS.** Applications and supplements must be received on-line by midnight on the closing date to be considered. Human Resources reserves the right to close positions without prior notification.

The most qualified applicants may be selected for an interview and/or additional testing. All applicants will be notified of their status by e-mail or mail. If you are invited to a testing process and might require reasonable accommodation to participate, please advise Human Resources at the time you are contacted. For information regarding the essential functions of a position, please review the job description by accessing our City website.