## Forensic Scientist

## Forensic Biology Section

**Position CF594**

**Statewide Salary: $52,676 - $88,123**

 **Location: Richmond, VA**

### The Virginia Department of Forensic Science is seeking a qualified applicant to perform forensic biology examinations at the Central Regional Laboratory. Duties of this position include identification/detection of blood and other body fluids, DNA PCR-based STR fluorescence imaging analysis and comparisons of genetic material on criminal evidence using state-of-the-art analytical methodologies, techniques, and instrumentation. Prepares reports of findings for use by the criminal justice system and testifies in court as an expert witness. Communicates with medical and legal officials on testing procedures, results and conclusions. Instructs law enforcement officials on the handling of evidence. Requires some travel.

**Minimum qualifications:**

* B.A./B.S. degree in biology, chemistry, forensic science, or related scientific field
* College courses (graduate or undergraduate level) totaling a minimum of nine cumulative semester hours with genetics, biochemistry, and molecular biology (molecular genetics or recombinant DNA technology) as the main topics, as well as course work and/or training in statistics and population genetics as applied to forensic DNA analysis
* A minimum of six months forensic human DNA laboratory experience
* Successful completion of a documented training program from an accredited private, local, state or federal forensic laboratory in forensic DNA PCR-based STR analysis on casework using the capillary electrophoresis platform
* Experience as a qualified DNA casework analyst in an accredited forensic laboratory conducting DNA isolations, PCR analysis using STRs on the CE platform, interpreting data and drawing conclusions on casework evidence, preparation of case-specific reports containing self-generated results and conclusions
* Forensic laboratory casework experience performing body fluid identification/ detection testing, case approach decision making, and sample selection for DNA analysis
* Knowledge of laboratory safety and QA/QC procedures
* Ability to distinguish colors, maintain accurate records, analyze and interpret data, manage multiple tasks efficiently, establish work priorities, and develop sound conclusions from analyses
* Selected candidate must be eligible to possess a valid driver’s license or have other means of reliable transportation

**Preferred qualifications:**

* Advanced degree in a related scientific field
* Experience testifying as an expert witness in federal and/or state courts
* Experience with CODIS software related to entry of DNA casework profiles and searching/ evaluating casework candidate matches
* Experience teaching forensic related courses or conducting forensic training
* Experience conducting forensic Y-STR analysis or probabilistic genotyping on casework
* Experience with forensic gel-based STR analysis using the FMBIO platform on casework

**Selected candidates must provide a DNA sample via a buccal swab**

**(saliva sample), be fingerprinted, drug tested and pass a security background check**

**If you are a current Commonwealth of Virginia employee, this position requires a new probationary period be served.**

Applicants must apply electronically using the State of Virginia’s Recruitment Management System (RMS). This position is open until filled with a five day minimum posting requirement. The RMS can be accessed using the link: <https://virginiajobs.peopleadmin.com>. Contact Julie Smith at (804)588-4053 for assistance.

# AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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