The Center for Forensic Science Research and Education (www.forensicscienceeducation.org) at the Fredric Rieders Family Renaissance Foundation in the suburban Philadelphia area provides forensic science education programs, courses, and seminars at the high school, graduate and post-professional continuing education level. We operate a facility with state of the art analytical instrumentation dedicated to the support of our educational and research mission. FRFRF offers a dynamic work environment, a dedicated staff, competitive salaries, a generous medical, dental, and vision plan, and more. Available equipment includes GCFID, HPLC, GCMS, LCMSMS, LCTOF, thermal cyclers and genetic analyzers, and a range of microscopes and other laboratory equipment and instruments. The Foundation receives support from NMS Labs, the nation’s leading independent provider of professional laboratory testing services, specializing in clinical toxicology, forensic science, and other vitally important areas of esoteric testing and expert services, and offers opportunities for collaboration to Foundation staff.

The Foundation is seeking a Research Assistant for this two-year position. **A Bachelor’s or Masters degree in science required, with chemistry, physics and biology preferred.** A minimum of 2 years hands-on experience in maintenance and operation of analytical equipment including high performance liquid chromatography, gas chromatography, gas chromatography/mass spectrometry equipment, liquid chromatography/mass spectrometry, liquid chromatography/tandem mass spectrometry, capillary electrophoresis and related laboratory equipment is required. Familiarity with principles and practice of quality assurance, and laboratory documentation is also required.

The person in this position is responsible for research, administrative, and analytical assignments related to the grant funded project, “Identification and Prevalence Determination of Novel Recreational Drugs and Discovery of Their Metabolites in Blood, Urine, and Oral Fluid”. This involves, in conjunction with senior scientific staff, the design, documentation and execution of analytical procedures and research protocols, tracking of grant progress, maintaining organized compilations of all data, assisting in the preparation of drafts of scientific papers, presentations, and articles. Major duties and responsibilities include:

- Ensuring awareness of and compliance with laboratory safety procedures
- Scheduling and ensuring that all aspects of the operation plan for the execution of the study have been met prior to study date.
- Developing logistics plan for deployment of resources to study site in Miami
- Monitoring and reporting on the IRB approval document
- Inventory of all supplies and logistical documents needed for the execution of the research project and ensuring these supplies and documents are on-site when team arrives
- Overseeing collection of samples while maintaining adherence to the IRB consent guidelines and confidentiality agreements
- Assisting with the method development and validation of analytical procedures required for sample analysis
- Assisting with sample analysis, documenting tests performed, and corresponding results
- Organizing and maintaining data for the purpose of preparing scientific reports, papers, and presentations
- Monitoring proposed project timeline progress, ensuring deadlines for progress reports are met
- Assisting with the preparation of progress reports for submission to the National Institute of Justice

The Research Assistant must have excellent organizational skills and the ability to multitask effectively. The ability to communicate well, both verbally and through technical writing, is critical. Also required for this position is the ability to exhibit professional and effective interpersonal skills in working with internal professional staff, as well as external partners and organizations. The successful candidate will have practical working knowledge of biological and analytical procedures including basic understanding of terminology, methods, theory, and data interpretation, and their significance to forensic applications. The Research Assistant should be able to comprehend regulations and SOPs, including proper safety practices, and apply them to work operations. Physical duties include:
• Ability to talk, hear, stand, reach with hands and arms, and use hands and fingers to manipulate instrument/equipment controls, computer keyboard, office equipment, objects, or tools
• Moving from one work location to another to sit and stand, sometimes for extended periods of time
• Vision (with correction) including color, distance, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus

Please apply directly at www.nmslabs.com/careers-positions. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.