Forensic Scientist - Controlled Substances  
Position CF697  
Salary: $50,139 - $83,880  
Location: Norfolk

The Virginia Department of Forensic Science is seeking a qualified individual to perform forensic chemical analyses of suspected controlled substances in the Eastern Regional Laboratory located in Norfolk. The successful candidate will: 1) use current state-of-the-art methodologies and instrumentation to analyze controlled substances; 2) prepare Certificates of Analyses on findings for use by the criminal justice system; and 3) testify in court as a qualified expert for the Commonwealth at criminal proceedings as to the results of laboratory findings and perform other duties assigned. Position requires occasional overnight travel. Employee will provide own transportation as required.

Minimum Qualifications: A Bachelor's degree in chemistry or other related science with sufficient chemistry courses (minimally, general, organic and analytical). Successful completion of a documented training program in forensic drug analysis and/or demonstration of competency. Knowledge of basic theoretical principles and applications of the instrumentation and methodologies used to analyze controlled substances (e.g., Color Tests, TLC, GC, GC/MS, FTIR). Knowledge of laboratory safety procedures; quality assurance/quality control and laboratory practices; instrumental analysis and experience in forensic drug analysis. Must be able to analyze data, develop sound conclusions, maintain accurate records, and analyze, and solve technical problems. Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing. Valid driver’s license required.

Preferred Qualifications: A graduate degree in a relevant area. Experience presenting testimony in a court of law as an expert witness. Work experience in an accredited forensic science laboratory.

If a fully qualified Forensic Scientist candidate cannot be found, the position will be filled as a Forensic Scientist Trainee at a salary of $43,600. The training will last approximately 9 to 12 months, dependent upon the qualifications of the successful candidate. The Trainee must meet the degree and course qualifications listed above.

Selected candidates must provide a DNA sample via a buccal swab (saliva sample), be fingerprinted and pass a security background check

Applicants must apply electronically using the State of Virginia’s Recruitment Management System (RMS) no later than 5:00 pm, June 17, 2014. The RMS can be accessed using the link: https://jobs.agencies.virginia.gov. Contact Butch Martin at (804)786-0150 for assistance.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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