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**Forensic Scientist - DNA Database**

ISP Forensic Scientist 1

Idaho State Police

Open for Recruitment: June 24, 2014 - July 9, 2014
Announcement #: 07432010211

Location(s): Meridian

The successful applicant will be required to complete a background investigation and polygraph examination, which includes drug screening. Please see the Idaho State Police Drug Policy at the end of this announcement.

The Forensic Scientist 1 is an entry-level position, which will work under the direct supervision of a more experienced Forensic Scientist. The Forensic Scientist 1 position converts to a Forensic Scientist 2 position upon successful completion of a specified training program, and two (2) years in the Forensic Scientist 1 position. An experienced scientist who meets the minimum qualifications and *qualifying work experience of the DNA Forensic Scientist 2 will be certified upon completion of a qualifying examination and the six-month probationary period. Pay will be adjusted accordingly at the time the incumbent is certified as a Forensic Scientist 2.

*Qualifying work experience for the DNA Forensic Scientist 2 includes a minimum of two (2) years working independently, planning, managing, and prioritizing forensic biology/DNA caseloads or offender database samples; successfully engaging in independent research, evaluation, and validation activities associated with forensic biology/DNA; performing and documenting a range of examinations regarding human DNA (preferably STR) analysis of casework and/or DNA database samples; providing training and consultation services to professional criminal justice and scientific audiences; and testifying as an expert regarding forensic/database DNA examinations, as applicable.

Responsibilities:

- Receive, document, and track samples obtained from qualifying Convicted Offenders for inclusion in the state and national DNA database
- Complete a training program in DNA analysis and technical review of Convicted Offender samples, acquire new skills, and improve techniques
- Conduct DNA (STR) testing on Convicted Offender samples and enter associated profiles into the DNA database (CODIS), while working closely with advanced forensic scientists
- Work closely with the State CODIS Administrator regarding database activities and sample confirmation/verification
- Participate in routine quality control measures, instrument maintenance and troubleshooting, as needed
- Maintain established standards of laboratory cleanliness, safety, and efficiency
- Perform examinations following defined SOPs and other quality standards
- Participate in the evaluation and validation of methods and/or instrumentation as it relates to the analysis of Convicted Offender samples
- May provide expert opinion and witness testimony regarding scientific analysis of Convicted Offender samples
- May also be trained in other forensic disciplines

Minimum Qualifications:

A baccalaureate degree in biology, chemistry, or a closely related science field including the successful completion of three separate courses in biochemistry, genetics, and molecular biology. Additionally, the
successful candidate must obtain training and/or attend a course in statistics and population genetics as it applies to forensic DNA analysis prior to completion of the training program (if requirement not already satisfied).

Note: The successful candidate will be required to obtain certification by the American Board of Criminalistics within (3) years of being selected for or promoted to a Forensic Scientist 2 position.

**Ranking Items:** The following are not minimum requirements for this position. If you do have experience in any of these areas, be sure to include them on your resume as it may increase your score:

- Experience working as a scientist in a professional laboratory environment, experience performing independent study/research activities, or work study/internship experience in a forensic laboratory.
- Coursework or training in statistics/population genetics as it applies to forensic DNA analysis
- CODIS software training and/or experience either as an analyst, or administrator

Examination:

Rating of your education and experience. It is essential that the information you provide emphasize education, experience, and positions held that are directly related to this announcement. Your application materials will be reviewed and a rating assigned. Applicants must receive a minimum rating of 70 to pass this examination. Notification of your test results will be available online when the review process is complete.

To preview the exam, click on the **Preview Exam** link below. (You will not be able to take the exam from this screen.) If you wish to take the exam, click on any **Apply Online** button.

You must also submit your college transcripts to the Idaho State Police for verification. **Applications without supporting transcripts will not be accepted.** Transcripts must be postmarked, faxed, or emailed by the application deadline. "Official" transcripts are not required at this time.

- You may fax them to (208) 884-7090, Attn: Human Resources, OR
- You may email them to michelle.george@isp.idaho.gov, OR
- You may mail them to: Idaho State Police, 700 S Stratford, Meridian, ID 83642, Attn: Human Resources

How to Apply:

Click on any **Apply Online** button and follow the instructions provided to complete the Application Checklist. Copy and paste your customized resume into the field provided under the Qualifications and Exams section of the Application Checklist. If you are unable to use the Apply Online process, submit a customized resume with your completed State of Idaho Application. To obtain a paper application, click on "Forms" at the top of the screen.

When updating your online application information, please select Idaho State Police under “Agencies,” full-time under “Job Type/Shift,” and Meridian under “Cities.”

### Idaho State Police Drug Policy

Idaho State Police does not consider for employment, nor accept as a volunteer, any person who has:

- Used or possessed within the 5 year period immediately preceding application for ISP employment: LSD, PCP, heroin, methamphetamine, cocaine, or designer drugs (e.g., ecstasy, synthetic cathinones, their chemical derivatives and synthetic equivalents, etc.); if use was prior to 5 years preceding application for employment, the following factors will be considered:
  
  1. the frequency of the behavior;
  2. the quantity of drugs involved; and
  3. the type of drug;

- Used or possessed within the 3 year period immediately preceding application of ISP employment: marijuana, inhalants (huffing), anabolic steroids, hallucinogens (psilocybin mushrooms), or synthetic cannabinoids (e.g., spice, K2, etc.);
- On any occasion illegally manufactured or delivered a controlled substance;
- Used any illegal drug while employed in any law enforcement or prosecutorial agency;
- Been found guilty by a court or jury of driving under the influence of intoxicants within the 5 year period preceding application for ISP employment;
- Abused prescription drugs (case by case analysis).

Other involvement with illegal drugs may be a disqualifier. The Colonel of the Idaho State Police has the authority to make all final hiring decisions.

### OVERTIME NOTICE:

At the discretion of the appointing authority, compensatory time off may be provided in lieu of overtime cash compensation.

Hiring is done without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age or disability. In addition, preference may be given to veterans who qualify under state and federal laws and regulations. If you need special accommodations to satisfy testing requirements, please contact the Division of Human Resources.