

Forensic Scientist Job Description

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Test the presence or absence of poisonous substances, drug or alcohol in blood and urine samples
- Liaise with other professionals like medical doctors and psychologists to examine and analyze samples
- Collect and test samples of blood, hairs, and urine
- Examine fingerprints, handwriting, and documents
- Collect exhibit and evidence from crime scene
- Handle and maintain forensic laboratory equipment
- Input and retrieve relevant data into and from data bases, to improve the reliability of forensic analysis and result
- Offer expert advice to judges, lawyers, forensic psychologists and other law enforcement agents involved in crime investigation
- Appear in law court as expert witness
- Ensure that forensic examinations and analysis are carried out in accordance with standard protocols and regulations.

Forensic Scientist Requirements – Skills, Knowledge, and Abilities

- Education and Certification: A Bachelor's degree in forensic science or any of the natural science discipline is very important for one to work as a forensic scientist. However, to work as a consultant or occupy a lead role, Master's in forensic science is necessary. In addition, membership of at least one of the forensic science certification board is mandatory to practice as a forensic scientist
- Strong Research and Analytical Skills: The work of forensic science involves high investigation and analysis. So, a forensic scientist is expected to not only retrieve materials and evidences related to crimes but be able to find supportive scientific results to buttress deductions
- Team work capability: A forensic scientist should be able to work with a team of scientists, crime investigators and other agents involved in the

justice system. This will not only make the work easier for him/her but for others

- Communication skills: Exceptional oral and written communication skills are equally necessary for a forensic scientist to have. The finding of a forensic scientist is not for his/her consumption but to assist other law enforcement agents deliver fair and just verdicts. So, he/she should be able to communicate his/her findings to others
- Crime Record: To be approved to practice in the field of forensic science, some states demand that you be free of any criminal case. Also, you must pass a urinalysis drug test before you are given approval.