



What steps are involved from application to employment?

As an Equal Opportunity Employer, the ISP does not discriminate based on race, nationality, gender, or sexual preference.

Central Management Services (CMS) has implemented appointment-based testing for the Forensic Scientist Trainee title. Applications will only be accepted by the "Hiring Agency Contact" listed on the job posting while the posting is active. The Agency Contact will forward applications to CMS, who will then contact the applicant to schedule testing. For information on CMS test site locations, please go to the ISP web site or contact CMS at 217-782-6921.

- Upon completion of the examination, CMS staff will check your test(s) and grade them "A", "B", "C", or "Not Qualified". The ISP only interviews and hires applicants who receive an "A" grade. Upon obtaining a passing grade, your name will be placed on an open competitive eligible list for Forensic Scientist Trainee.
- Several weeks before the ISP plans to conduct interviews, the department will ask CMS for a list of those eligible to be interviewed for available Forensic Scientist Trainee positions. CMS will send the list of "A" grade applicants to the ISP.
- The ISP may mail you an invitation to interview. If you are one of the top candidates following the interview, the ISP may ask you to take a polygraph examination and will follow up a clear polygraph with a background investigation.
- Contingent upon a clear background investigation report, the ISP may offer you a position as a Forensic Scientist Trainee.



Who can I contact to talk about my interest in a Forensic Scientist Trainee position?

ISP Training and Applications Lab: 217-557-2399

You may also contact the following ISP laboratories:

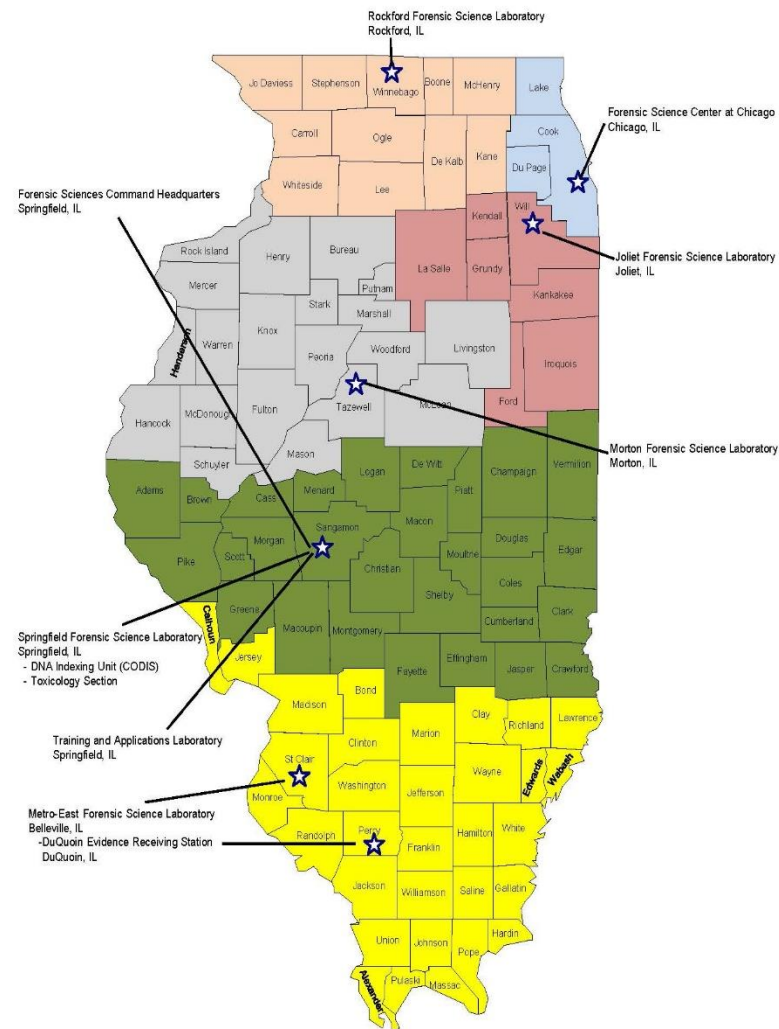
Forensic Science Center at Chicago	312-433-8000
Joliet Forensic Science Lab	815-740-3543
Metro-East Forensic Science Lab	618-222-8400
Morton Forensic Science Lab	309-284-6500
Rockford Forensic Science Lab	815-987-7419
Springfield Forensic Science Lab	217-782-4975

You may also contact the Illinois State Police Forensic Sciences Command Headquarters at 217-782-4649 to discuss becoming a Forensic Scientist and working in our extensive laboratory system.



ILLINOIS STATE POLICE

ILLINOIS STATE POLICE
Division of Forensic Services
Forensic Sciences Command



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ISP Central Printing Section
Printed on Recycled Paper
ISP 6-675 (11/20) .5 M
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Choose a Forensic Science Career

with the
Illinois State Police



Illinois State Police

What does a Forensic Scientist do?

Forensic Scientists work in sophisticated crime laboratories each day on real investigations to examine, identify, evaluate and objectively describe evidence from actual crime scenes. The work of the Forensic Scientists produces clues to help track down criminals, free the innocent, and convict the guilty. People who join the Illinois State Police (ISP) as a Forensic Scientist Trainee become part of this exciting and rewarding profession.

Visit our website for additional information on a career with the ISP Forensic Sciences Command:
<http://isp.illinois.gov/forensics>

What are the eligibility requirements to become a Forensic Scientist Trainee?

Option A - Requires a Bachelor's Degree in a natural science or in forensic science.

Latent Prints

Identification and comparison of impressions from sources like fingers, palms, and feet.

Firearms & Toolmarks

Examination and comparison of fired bullets, discharged cartridges, guns, gunpowder patterns, obliterated serial numbers in metal, or marks left by burglary tools such as a pry bar or screwdriver. This may also include comparison of impressions from shoes or tires.



Option B - Requires a Bachelor's Degree in a natural science or forensic science, including a minimum of 20 semester hours of coursework in chemistry with a total of 60 semester hours of science coursework.

Drug Chemistry

Identification of controlled substances and marijuana.

Trace Chemistry

Identification and comparison of materials from fires, paints, and firearm discharges.

Toxicology

Identification of the presence of alcohols, volatiles, drugs and poisons in tissue, blood, urine, and other body fluids.

Microscopy

Identification and comparison of hairs, fibers, woods, soils, building materials, insulation, and a broad group of miscellaneous materials referred to as "particulate unknowns".

Option C - Requires a Bachelor's Degree in a natural science or in forensic science, including successful completion of coursework of nine (9) semester hours in the three DNA class requirements of genetics, biochemistry, and molecular biology, with a total of 60 semester hours of science coursework.

Forensic Biology/DNA

Identification and comparison of biological fluids and dried stains such as blood, semen, vaginal fluid, and saliva.

What does the position pay?

For salary information for the Forensic Scientist Trainee position, refer to our website.

How long is training?

Forensic Scientist Trainees receive comprehensive instruction in the use of the most advanced scientific technology and procedures for analyzing evidence. The length of training programs varies with the specialty areas.



Option A	Latent Prints	24 Months
	Firearms/Toolmarks	24 Months
Option B	Drug Chemistry	18 Months
	Microscopy	12 Months
	Toxicology	24 Months
	Trace Chemistry	30 Months
Option C	Forensic Biology/DNA	24 Months

What benefits are available to a Forensic Scientist Trainee?

Holidays: Several state and federal holidays are recognized.

Vacation: 10 paid days per year.

Personal Days: Three paid days off for personal matters

Sick Time: One day accumulating for each month's service.

Maternity/Paternity Leave: At the birth/adoption of a child, 50 working days off for either the mother or father.

Military Leave: The time required to comply with United States Armed Services and National Guard duty.

Family & Medical Leave: Up to 12 unpaid weeks off for Family and Medical Leave Act conditions.

Insurance: Health, life, vision, and dental; optional coverage for your family.

Group Long-Term Care Insurance: Option to purchase insurance to provide "custodial care" for a long period of time, due to chronic health conditions and/or physical disabilities.

Workers Compensation: Compensation for job-related injury or illness.

Unemployment Compensation: Partial payment for loss of wages.

Retirement Program: Membership in the State Employees Retirement System, with eligibility to draw benefits after a minimum of 10 years of certified service.

Bereavement Leave: Two paid days in the event of the death of an immediate family member. This is limited to once per calendar year.



Deferred Compensation: Automatically enrolled unless employee chooses to "opt out" within first 30 days of hire.

Sick Leave Bank: Emergency sick time resource available for catastrophic illness or injury; optional.

Wellness Program: Assistance obtaining a healthy lifestyle through professional advice related to nutritional, physical, mental, and emotional matters.

Where does training take place?

All trainees will be assigned to the appropriate training laboratory location for their discipline. The primary training laboratories are located in Springfield and Chicago. During this time of training, the trainee will be trained through a series of lectures, practical laboratory experience, written examinations, and practical examinations with clearly defined expectations for completion. All aspects of the training program are directly supervised by a Training Coordinator.

How do I inquire about a Forensic Scientist Trainee position?

Internet: <http://isp.illinois.gov/forensics>

Write to: Illinois State Police Forensic Sciences Command
Statewide Training Program
2060 Hill Meadows Drive, Suite 1
Springfield, IL 62702

Telephone: 217-557-2399 ext. 3

