

DNA Analyst – Richland County Sheriff’s Department, Columbia, SC

We are seeking a highly motivated and experienced individual for the position of DNA Analyst with the Richland County Sheriff’s Office in Columbia, SC. This is not an entry level position; previous casework is essential.

Position Description

Perform serological and DNA analysis on evidence submitted from cases such as homicides, assaults, rapes, etc. This includes, but is not limited to, the identification and DNA profiling of blood, saliva, semen, tissue and any other biological material which may have evidentiary value.

Provide submitting agencies with a report of findings and provide expert testimony in court when required. Maintain a good working relationship with investigating officers and courts. Assist law enforcement agencies at crime scenes, when necessary.

Maintain good working environment which includes: keeping updated logs for casework, reagents, quality control, instrumentation and equipment; assuring that methods and procedures are current; routinely decontaminating work surfaces and equipment; maintaining equipment and instrumentation; preparing reagents; stocking chemicals and supplies.

Must stay abreast of developments in the areas of serological and DNA analysis by reading current scientific literature and by attending lectures, meetings, seminars, and training sessions related to the field at least once a year.

Must undergo and successfully complete proficiency testing at regular intervals as described in the Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories.

Provide training to area law enforcement and medical personnel on the proper collection and handling of serological evidence. Also provide training to legal personnel on DNA technology.

Compensation is contingent on education and experience.

Preferred Qualifications

- Possess a Master’s Degree in Forensic Science or biology-related area
- Three years of experience as a forensic DNA analyst with an accredited laboratory
- Successfully completed (college or university defined passing grade) college level (graduate and/or undergraduate) course work in the following areas: biochemistry, genetics, molecular biology and statistics and/or population genetics totaling at least twelve semester credit hours, or equivalent, with at least three at the graduate level
- Possess good communication skills

Minimum Qualifications

- Possess a Bachelor’s Degree in Forensic Science or biology-related area

- Successfully completed (college or university defined passing grade) college level (graduate and/or undergraduate) course work in the following areas: biochemistry, genetics and molecular biology totaling at least nine semester credit hours, or equivalent
- Coursework or training in statistics and/or population genetics
- Possess good communication skills

Conditions of Employment

- Candidates must undergo a criminal background check
- Candidates may be drug tested during their employment
- Candidates must provide a copy of their college transcripts and their degree at their interview
- The hired individual must successfully complete a training period and competency test
- **How to Apply**

Please send a completed application and a C.V. to:

Rachel W. Grant – DNA Technical Leader

rgrant@rcsd.net

Richland County Sheriff's Department

5623 Two Notch Rd.

Columbia, SC 29223