



FORENSIC TOXICOLOGIST or TRAINEE  
Position CF644  
Salary: \$85,346 - \$114,372  
Location: Manassas, VA

**DFS is filling one position at each Regional Laboratory (Northern and Western). Positions for each Laboratory are posted separately, so you must apply directly to each position that you would like to be considered for employment.**

The Virginia Department of Forensic Science Northern Laboratory in Manassas, VA is seeking a qualified Forensic Toxicologist to perform postmortem and human performance toxicology testing and provide testimony about the effects of alcohol and/or drugs on human performance and behavior. The candidate will independently analyze human fluids and tissues in postmortem, DUI/D and other criminal cases using chemical and instrumental methodologies, critically evaluate data, prepare Certificates of Analysis, and interpret and defend results in courts of law. Frequent travel, occasionally overnight, is required and employee will provide own transportation as required.

**Required Qualifications:**

- Ph.D. in toxicology, chemistry, biochemistry, pharmacology or closely related scientific field with either sufficient toxicology courses or experience in forensic toxicological analyses (Applications will be considered from individuals who will receive their Ph.D. within approximately 3 months of filing their application. Before employment can be considered, verification of the degree, or confirmation from the graduate program of expected completion of the degree, is required. The selected candidate must have been awarded the degree by the start of employment)
- Employment experience in a forensic toxicology laboratory, to include successful completion of a documented training program and/or demonstration of competency
- Independent knowledge of the theoretical principles and applications of instrumentation and methodologies used to analyze specimens submitted to the laboratory
- Documented training and demonstrated knowledge to the effects of alcohol and drugs on human performance and behavior
- Professional experience using basic laboratory equipment and analytical instrumentation (i.e. immunoassay, HPLC, GC/MS, GC/FID, GC/NPD and LC/MS/MS) to identify alcohol and/or drugs in biological samples
- Courtroom testimony as an expert witness in forensic toxicology
- Ability to work independently, set priorities, work efficiently, keep accurate records, accurately analyze samples, correctly interpret data and develop reasonable conclusions
- Ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing
- Knowledge of laboratory safety and quality assurance/quality control procedures
- A valid driver's license and/or other means of reliable transportation

**Preferred Qualifications:**

- Certification or eligibility for certification as a Fellow of the American Board of Forensic Toxicology
- Experience in forensic related teaching/training

**Trainee:**

If a fully qualified Forensic Toxicologist candidate does not meet all of the required qualifications, a trainee position may be offered to the most suited candidate with a salary of \$72,105. Upon successful completion of training, the trainee's salary will be established within the salary range for a qualified Forensic Toxicologist. The training will last approximately 18 months, dependent upon the qualifications of the selected candidate. The trainee candidate must meet the educational requirements stated in the required qualifications (Ph.D. in toxicology, chemistry, biochemistry, pharmacology or closely related scientific field with either sufficient toxicology courses or experience in forensic toxicological analyses). Preferred qualifications include experience working in a clinical/forensic toxicology laboratory.

**Probationary Period:**

This position requires an 18-month probationary period. If you are a current Commonwealth of Virginia employee, this position requires a new probationary period be served.

**Background Investigation:**

Selected candidate(s) must successfully pass a background investigation to include a fingerprint-based criminal history check. Selected candidate(s) must provide a DNA sample via a buccal swab (saliva sample) and successfully pass a drug test. Reference checks will be conducted to include contact with current/previous supervisors.

**Employment Eligibility Verification:**

DFS will record information from each new employee's Form I-9 (Employment Eligibility Verification) into the Federal E-Verify system to confirm identity and work authorization.

Applicants must apply electronically using the Commonwealth of Virginia's Recruitment Management System (RMS) by December 22, 2022. The RMS can be accessed using the link: <https://virginiajobs.peopleadmin.com>. Contact Tracey Kazelskis at (804) 588-4000 for assistance.

**AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

Posted: 12/02/2022

