

Becoming a Forensic Scientist

FORENSIC SCIENCE

The science and profession dealing with testing evidence using natural sciences and applying it to the law. Forensic science can be used to prove elements of a crime, verify or discredit statements, identify decedents or suspects, and establish a connection to a crime or crime scene. Forensic science is a rewarding career where the love of science can be applied to the good of society, public health and public safety.

FORENSIC SCIENTIST

One who tests evidence and applies science to law:

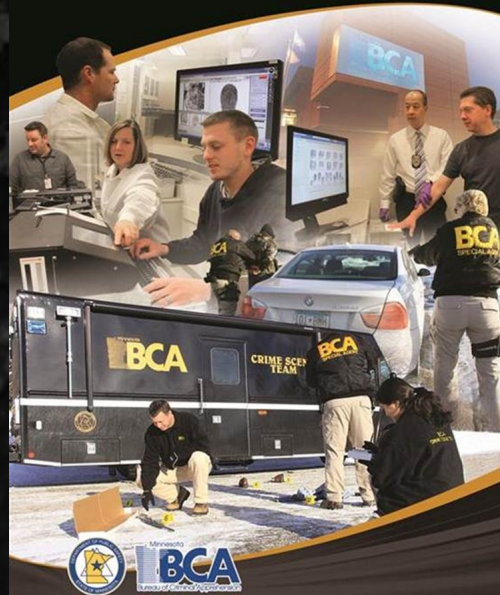
- ◆ Provides results and interpretation of analyses of submitted evidence to the criminal justice system.
- ◆ Participates in the design and validation of new technology and methods for use in casework.
- ◆ Testifies as an expert witness as required.

BECOMING A FORENSIC SCIENTIST

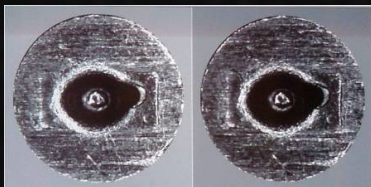
- ◆ Requires a Bachelors or advanced degree in biology, chemistry, forensic science or equivalent.
 - Additional suggested coursework in mathematics, statistics, criminalistics and public speaking.
- ◆ Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- ◆ Intellectual curiosity.
- ◆ Ability to be unbiased.
- ◆ Personal Integrity.

LABORATORY POSITIONS

- ◆ For all State of Minnesota job opportunities visit: <https://mn.gov/mmb/careers/search-for-jobs/>



Bureau of Criminal Apprehension



MN BCA Forensic Science Services

- ◆ Provides forensic science testing, responds to crime scenes to assist local law enforcement, calibration services, and subsequent expert testimony on matters relative to criminal statutes.
- ◆ Laboratory services provided to the Minnesota criminal justice community from locations in St. Paul, Bemidji, and St. Cloud.

ST. PAUL – Full Service

- ◆ Evidence Intake/Processing
- ◆ Biology/DNA
- ◆ Drug Chemistry
- ◆ Latent Prints
- ◆ Trace
- ◆ Fire Debris
- ◆ Toxicology
- ◆ Firearms & Toolmarks
- ◆ Crime Scene
- ◆ Digital & Multimedia Evidence
- ◆ Calibration Laboratory



BEMIDJI – Targeted Service

- ◆ Evidence Intake/Processing
- ◆ Biology
- ◆ Drug Chemistry
- ◆ Latent Prints
- ◆ Firearms & Toolmarks
- ◆ Crime Scene
- ◆ Digital & Multimedia Evidence



ST. CLOUD – Targeted Service

- ◆ Evidence Intake/Processing
- ◆ Drug Chemistry

BCA LAB Epstein-Rhoads Internship Program

PURPOSE

To provide an internship experience for college students interested in entering the field of forensic science. This program offers students an opportunity for observation of forensic scientists at work as well as involvement in working on an assigned laboratory project.

ELIGIBILITY

Students typically are in their junior or senior year in college, or in graduate school, pursuing a degree in forensic science, Criminalistics, Biology, Chemistry, Digital Forensics or equivalent. Desired coursework includes:

- ◆ Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Quantitative Analysis, Qualitative Analysis, Inorganic

PROGRAM

- ◆ 10-16 week non-paid internship program.
- ◆ 5 days a week, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- ◆ Students collaborate with laboratory personnel to complete an assigned project consisting of an extensive literature review, laboratory experimentation and research, compilation of data, and oral presentation. Examples of laboratory projects include:
 - ◆ Establish quantitation procedures for controlled substances.
 - ◆ Determine variability of ignitable liquids found in fire debris.
 - ◆ Evaluate bicycle paint chemistry.
 - ◆ Optimize latent print processing of firearms.
 - ◆ Evaluate DNA analytical procedures.

AVAILABLE LABORATORY LOCATIONS

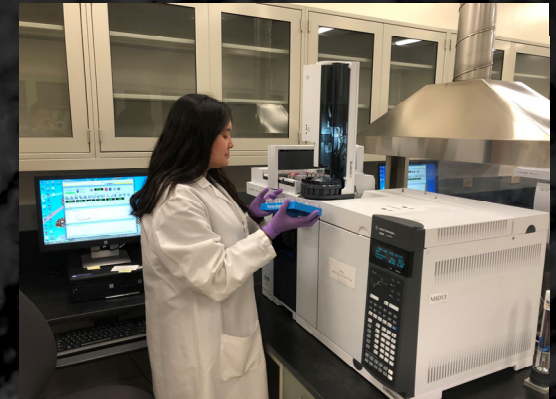
Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

Forensic Science Services– St. Paul
1430 Maryland Avenue E
St. Paul, Minnesota 55106
Phone (651) 793-2900
Fax (651) 793-2901

Forensic Science Services– Bemidji
3700 N. Norris Court NW
Bemidji, Minnesota 55601
Phone (218) 755-3826
Fax (218) 751-2027

For more information please visit

<https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/bca/bca-divisions/forensic-science/Pages/career-opportunities-internships.aspx>



APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must submit the following:

- ⇒ State of MN internship application.
- ⇒ MN BCA Forensic Science Services Internship Interest Form.
- ⇒ College transcripts.
- ⇒ Verification from college advisor that internship is being taken for credit.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM DEADLINES

	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL
Program Duration:	January– May	June-August	September-December
Application	Last Friday in	Last Friday in	Last Friday in



- Minnesota
BCA
Bureau of Criminal Apprehension