

Intern Project Summer 2022

Low Level Male DNA in Sexual Assault Samples

Samples collected in sexual assault cases often result in male/female DNA mixtures. Male DNA below a certain level or below a certain ratio in a male/female mixture will not result in a usable DNA profile that can be entered into CODIS. A study of completed casework may determine the limits of developing useful DNA profiles.

We propose to use an intern to evaluate completed casework involving sexual assault samples. Quantity of male DNA and male/female DNA ratios will be compared to DNA profile outcomes. This may allow ISP to establish criteria that will lead to more efficient use of resources by limiting amplification of low level samples.

This position will be an unpaid position during summer of 2022. The selected individual will be required to work Monday-Friday 8:00-4:30 at the Indiana State Police Laboratory at 550 West 16th Street, Indianapolis. Candidates are subject to a background investigation and drug screen. In addition to completing the above described project the intern will gain some general exposure to all disciplines within the ISP laboratory and have an opportunity to observe Biology casework in progress. An attempt will also be made to allow for observation of courtroom testimony by an ISP forensic scientist.

Information you need to understand

- This is an unpaid internship with the Biology Section.
- This is a summer 2022 internship. (We will work out specific dates with you based on your availability)
- You will be expected to pass a background check conducted by the Indiana State Police.
- You will be required to pass a drug screen test. (You will be required to pay for this, typically less than \$100)
- You will be required to sign a statement of confidentiality.
- You will not be allowed to handle actual evidence.
- You will be required to submit your college transcripts.

Benefits and expectations

- Assigned project (see brief outline above).
- Present the project results to the staff (typically a PowerPoint presentation).
- Observe biology casework.
- Personal orientation in each of the ISP forensic disciplines (1-2 hours each).
- Assigned a Mentor (experienced casework analyst to help give you advice and help in your project).
- Assigned a Supervisor (to help direct your activities).
- An attempt will also be made to allow for observation of courtroom testimony by an ISP forensic scientist.