

MICHIGAN STATE POLICE METRO DETROIT FORENSIC LABORATORY SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Internship Coordinator: Kimberly Venuk (Venukk@michigan.gov)

OVERVIEW

A semester-long internship with the Michigan State Police Metro Detroit Forensic Laboratory will offer exposure to multiple disciplines of forensic science.

The program will expose students to evidence handling, chain of custody, and the specific functions of each discipline to demonstrate how those processes aid in criminal investigations. There may also be opportunities for viewing an autopsy, observation of court room testimony, and a ride-a-long.

This program will be without monetary inducement and for academic class credit in accordance with LOM 1.13 (Interns and Volunteers). It will be the responsibility of the internship candidate to ensure that they receive academic credit for their experience if desired.

Target Candidate Requirements

- College level junior or senior with a degree track in a natural or physical science
 - Criminal Justice students are not eligible unless pursuing additional studies in a natural or physical science
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above
- Citizen of the United States at the time of application
 - International students with a valid student visa are also eligible to apply
- Has a valid operator's or chauffeur's license without restrictions (except corrective lenses)
- Does not have a history of criminal convictions or excessive civil infraction violations
- Ability to pass a controlled substances screening
- Has completed the Hepatitis B vaccination series by the start of the program
- Ability to pass a background check
- Ability to comply with a confidentiality agreement

Application Process

Interested candidates who meet the requirements should initiate the application process prior to February 1 of the year they wish to participate in the summer internship program. The number of candidates selected may vary and is contingent upon the capabilities and staffing of the laboratory at that time.

- Interested candidates can initiate the application process by contacting the Metro Detroit Forensic Laboratory to express interest in the program. The Internship Coordinator shall then provide the candidate with the following forms:

- PD-39 Application for Internship
 - PD-37 Agreement for Provision of Unpaid Student Services to the MSP
- The candidate shall complete the above listed forms and submit them to the Internship Coordinator, along with the following supplemental materials:
 - Cover Letter
 - Resume
 - Letter of Reference (at least one from a non-family member)
 - Recent academic transcripts (official or unofficial)
- All application materials will be reviewed by the Internship Coordinator. Candidates who are selected to proceed beyond the initial screening process will be contacted to schedule an interview.
- All candidates will be notified of their selection status. If selected to participate in the program, acceptance is contingent upon the ability to pass a background check, a controlled substances screening, and provide a DNA sample.

Goals

To provide an educational opportunity to persons interested in the field of forensic science.

- Provide a detailed overview of the laboratory analyses conducted by the discipline.
- Introduce all members of the discipline and discuss their role(s) within the unit.
- Discuss applicable safety considerations of the discipline.
- Demonstrate examples of the various analyses conducted within the discipline through casework observations and/or mock examples.
- Review previous cases that demonstrate how the specific type of forensic evidence has aided investigations.
- Explain and demonstrate the use of databases, where applicable.
- Guide future forensic scientist on their career path.

Internship Coordinator

The laboratory director will designate an Internship Coordinator to be the point of contact for all prospective candidates.

This laboratory employee will oversee the entirety of the program from candidate selection through internship completion. The coordinator will manage all required forms, application materials, follow-up correspondence, acceptance requirements, and scheduling. Any questions regarding the program throughout the internship process shall be directed to the Internship Coordinator and/or designee.

