Forensic Science Laboratory Internship Program

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q. Can I shadow a laboratory scientist for a day?
   A. No, due to confidentiality concerns and the nature of the work being performed, individuals are not allowed to shadow scientists. Interns participating in the internship program are provided opportunities to observe scientists working cases and performing other routine duties.

Q. How do I know if an internship is available in the area I am interested in?
   A. Please see the "Internship Availability" section on our website.

Q. Does the KBI offer paid internships?
   A. The KBI Forensic Science Laboratory does offer limited paid internships. If selected for a paid internship, the intern will receive hourly compensation, but will not be benefit eligible.

Q. Will I be able to participate in any case or crime scene investigations during my laboratory internship?
   A. No, the KBI Forensic Science Laboratory is not responsible for the analysis of crime scenes. The KBI's Crime Scene Response Team (CSRT) is housed under the Investigations Branch of the KBI. Crime scene investigation and analysis is performed by KBI Special Agents and CSRT members. KBI CSRT does not accept interns.

Q. For my application, do I need to submit official university transcripts?
   A. Unofficial transcripts will be accepted with the application. The name of the applicant, the institution name, course names, dates/terms the courses were taken, grades, and the term/cumulative GPA must be visible on the documentation. **Note: Official transcripts from all colleges/universities will be required if the applicant is offered an internship.**

Q. Do I need to submit transcripts from all colleges/universities from which I have received college credits?
   A. If the course names, credit hours, and grades appear as transfer credits on another transcript, separate transcripts do not need to be submitted at the time of the application. Official transcripts from all colleges/universities will be required if the applicant is offered an internship.

Q. Can I submit my letter of recommendation on behalf of the author?
   A. Yes, the letter of recommendation can be sent with the other application documentation, or directly from the advisor and/or professor.

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Q. Should I submit a Curriculum Vitae (CV) or resume?
   A. Either document will be accepted. The applicant may choose the option that best highlights their relevant experience.

Q. Will I be compensated for my travel and accommodations for the interview, background process, or duration of the internship? What if I am out of the state?
   A. The applicant/intern will be responsible for all travel and accommodations. The initial interview may take place virtually, depending on the applicant's location. If the applicant receives a conditional offer, travel and accommodations for the background process and duration of the internship will be the applicant's/intern's responsibility.

Q. What should I expect after receiving a conditional offer?
   A. See the "Polygraph and Background Investigation Process" section on our website.

Q. Are there any exceptions to the Internship Disqualifiers?
   A. No.

Q. What kind of projects will I be working on and when am I required to be there?
   A. Projects will vary depending on the needs and resources of the laboratory section, as well as the skills and experience of the intern. Projects may include validation of a new technology or method, performance verifications, data analysis, etc. Interns are expected to be at the laboratory, between business hours, for a **minimum of 180 hours** for the semester. The exact schedule will be agreed upon by the intern and the mentor/supervisor. This ensures that both the intern and laboratory have a mutually beneficial and quality experience.

Q. Will I likely be employed at the KBI Forensic Science Laboratory after my internship experience?
   A. Depending on position availability and intern success, interns are encouraged to apply for open employment positions upon graduation. Internships are a great way to build experience and knowledge in the field and a number of former interns have obtained employment with the KBI or other agencies.