



**Job Title:** Forensic Chemist

**Closing Date/Time:** Wed. 02/15/17 11:59 PM Mountain Time

**Salary:** \$4,748.50 - \$5,935.67 Monthly

**Job Type:** Full-time

**FLSA:** Non-exempt position, eligible for overtime compensation

**Location:** Police Department - City of Colorado Springs, Colorado

**Department:** Colorado Springs Police Department

## The City

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This information may change annually.

## Forensic Chemist

The Colorado Springs Police Department is seeking a Forensic Chemist to work in its Metro Crime Laboratory.

### Typical Responsibilities

- Analyze materials for illicit drugs or associated substances
- Perform analyses on suspected drugs of abuse using microscopy, color tests, and thin layer chromatography; separate drugs from excipients using thin layer chromatography, gas chromatography, and solvent extraction for purposes of identification; and confirm identity of drugs of abuse using gas chromatography, mass spectrometry, and infrared spectrometry
- Write court acceptable reports of results of analysis and effectively communicate results of analysis to investigating officers, judges, attorneys, and juries
- Testify as an expert witness on drug identification in criminal trials, often in opposition of opposing experts
- Complete quality assurance/maintenance procedures on gas chromatographs, mass spectrometers, and Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy instrumentation
- Utilize literature references to help identify unknown suspected illicit substances and other medications

### Examples of Job Competencies

#### Knowledge of:

- Operations, services, and activities of a Metro Crime Lab
- Police Department protocols and technical practices of an ISO 17025 accredited laboratory
- Equipment, materials, chemicals, and supplies used in a crime laboratory
- Modern office procedures and equipment, including computers and supporting software

#### Ability to:

- Use stereo and compound microscopes, analytical balances, centrifuges, cameras, gas chromatographs, mass spectrometers, and infrared spectrometers
- Communicate clearly and concisely, orally and in writing
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships

Work is performed in an office/laboratory environment with possible exposure to noise, communicable diseases, respiratory hazards, and hazardous chemicals. The ability to walk and stand for extended periods and lift 20 pounds occasionally is required.

**The job offer will be contingent upon successful completion of a polygraph examination, drug test, extensive background check, and other pre-employment assessments.**

**Applicants that have used marijuana within 18 months from the date of their application submission will not be eligible for hire. More information about the Colorado Springs Police Department's Marijuana Use Policy can be found at <http://www.springsgov.com/Page.aspx?NavID=4887>.**

**Minimum Qualifications**

Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major coursework in general chemistry, analytical chemistry, pharmaceutical chemistry, pharmacology, or a closely related field.

Three years of full-time forensic laboratory experience, including experience as an expert witness.

Possess, or obtain upon hire, and maintain a valid Colorado driver's license.

**Preferred Qualifications**

Evidence of continued education in the forensic sciences.

Experience in a forensic laboratory setting (specifically in analytical chemistry and toxicology) and/or experience in an ISO 17025 accredited laboratory.

Experience which demonstrates competency in controlled substance analysis.

Experience which demonstrates advanced operational skills in GC/FID, GC/MS, GC/MS,MS, and IR spectrometry systems to include calibrating, troubleshooting, and method development.

**Additional Information**

**This job announcement is not intended to include a complete listing of all responsibilities, knowledge, skills, and abilities associated with the position.**

Please visit <https://coloradosprings.gov> and click on 'Apply for a City Career' > 'City Career Postings – Apply Now' button to complete an online application. All job applicants will need to create a new login and online application (unless you already have a NEOGOV/governmentjobs.com user ID and password).

Completing your application in full, including the entire work experience section, will assist Human Resources (HR) in the applicant screening process. Your application may not be considered if all of the information requested for each employer you list is not provided.

Our NEOGOV application system does not allow you to edit your application after it has been submitted for a position. If you want to make changes, you may submit another application prior to the position's closing date and time listed in the job posting.

To view the status of your application, go to <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/cosprings/default.cfm>.

To be notified of future career opportunities, go to <http://coloradosprings.gov/jic>

**If hired, you will be required to provide proof of your eligibility to work in the United States.**

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**Equal Opportunity Employer**