



VISITING SCIENTIST PROGRAM



The FBI Visiting Scientist Program (VSP) is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for early career scientists and recent graduates to participate in forensic science research at the FBI Laboratory, one of the largest and most comprehensive crime labs in the world. Program participants perform research in areas of interest to law enforcement and national security.

An Inside Look

As a VSP participant, you'll collaborate with FBI research scientists and leading scientists in other government agencies and academia. You will enhance skills in applied research using cutting-edge technologies and state-of-the-art scientific instrumentation, and coauthor publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals.

After completing a VSP appointment, many of our alumni receive employment offers from the FBI, other federal agencies, and state/local crime labs.



What You'll Explore

If contributing to matters of national security and law enforcement sound appealing, you'll thrive in the VSP. Projects include, but are not limited to:

- Anthropology
- Microbial forensics
- Automated pattern evidence recognition
- Decision analysis
- Toxicology
- Explosives analysis
- Forensic geology and geographic attribution
- Forensic chemistry
- Forensic applications of genetics and bioinformatics
- Trace evidence analysis
- Victim recovery

Selection Process

Participants are selected based on academic records, recommendations, applied research interests, and compatibility of background with applied research programs and projects at the Research Unit. Selection is also dependent upon availability of funds, staff programs, and equipment. The Research Unit makes all final participant selections.

Only individuals possessing strong academic credentials, outstanding character, and a high degree of motivation will be selected for the Visiting Scientist Program.

About the Lab

Since 1982, the Lab's research program has welcomed postgraduates and faculty on sabbatical and provided them with a life-enriching work experience. Program participants perform research in areas of interest to law enforcement and national security under the guidance of leading forensic scientists at the FBI Laboratory in Quantico, VA.

WHAT IT TAKES

In addition to FBI eligibility qualifications, students and postgrads must meet suitable education standards to apply to the VSP, while faculty members must be full-time, permanent employees of their home institution (adjunct faculty are not eligible on that basis alone).

To be considered

Visiting Scientist Program applicants:

- Must be attending a U.S.-accredited college or university.
- Have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or above on a 4.0 scale and be in good standing with their undergraduate or graduate degree program.
- Postgraduate applicants still pursuing your degree must be on track to complete your degree prior to the starting date; postgraduate applicants with degrees must have received your degree within five years of the desired starting date.
- Faculty applicants must be full-time, permanent faculty members at a U.S.- accredited college or university.

Eligibility

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Successfully complete an extensive FBI background investigation
- Be in compliance with the FBI Employment Drug Policy
- Have a bachelor's degree or higher from a U.S.- accredited college or university in an appropriate science (chemistry, geology, and other physical sciences; biology and related disciplines; statistics; or forensic science)* [or] be a faculty member at a U.S.-accredited college or university
- Must have health insurance coverage (can be obtained through ORISE)

* Degree must be obtained within five years of the VSP admission date.

How to Apply

The FBI VSP is an FBI-sponsored educational program in partnership with Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) and is administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE). Qualified applicants must apply directly to ORISE.

For ORISE application information and materials, visit: www.zintellect.com/Catalog and use the keyword "FBI." For additional VSP information, visit: orise.ornl.gov/fbi/default.html.



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