

National Institute of

Justice



NIJ

2010 Grant Management Summit
Grant Progress Assessment (GPA) Program

Patricia Kashtan

Program Operations Specialist





Grant Progress Assessment

- Mission:
 - Support NIJ in its efforts to assess forensic laboratory grantee progress in meeting grant program goals and objectives
 - Identify challenges faced by forensic laboratory grantees in achieving these goals and objectives
 - Identify successful or model programs
 - Assess the impact of federal funding for forensic laboratories on the capacity and effectiveness of the nation's forensic laboratories



GPA Benefits

- Provides NIJ with a comprehensive statewide review of grant performance
- Enables NIJ to monitor the expenditure of federal funds
- Provides grant recipients with an objective, professional DNA Audit and Grant Progress Assessment
- Provides NIJ and grant recipients with a set schedule of audits and grant assessments
- GPA preparation and execution of a site visit educates the grantee of what documentation and information is expected to maintain an optimum program and raises the bar regarding the quality of an award
- GPA assessments build stronger relationships through the communication between grantee and NIJ during the reporting process
- GPA assessment reports spot issues and action items for resolution before they become potential problems
- Grantees benefit from the GPA team expertise to fulfill objectives required by the solicitation which in turn benefit the Forensic Community



GPA Personnel

- Patricia Kashtan
 - NIJ GPA Program Manager

- Dale Heideman
 - NFSTC Assessments Services Manager



NIJ GPA PM Responsibilities

- Oversee NIJ's and NFSTC's GPA processes
- Provide data on grants to NFSTC assessment teams
- Maintain records of reports
- Collect and evaluate assessment findings
- Provide feedback to grantee agencies
- Ensure/improve the quality of the program



GPA Schedule

EVEN YEARS						ODD YEARS					
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Bode	CA	ME	PA	IL	TX	Bode		AR	DE	KY	CT
Identity		MN	SD	NV	MI	Identity		OH	NM	MA	
LabCorp		WY		NJ		LabCorp				NC	
Orchid						Orchid				DC	
Chromosomal						Chromosomal					
Strand						Strand					
Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
IN	NY	RI	AL	VT*	LA	GA	CO	AK	MS	SC	PR
MD	OK	MO	GU	FL		NH	KS	AZ	NE	VA	
MT	TN		HI			WI	ND	ID	WV	IA	
			VI				UT			VT*	
			WA								
			OR								

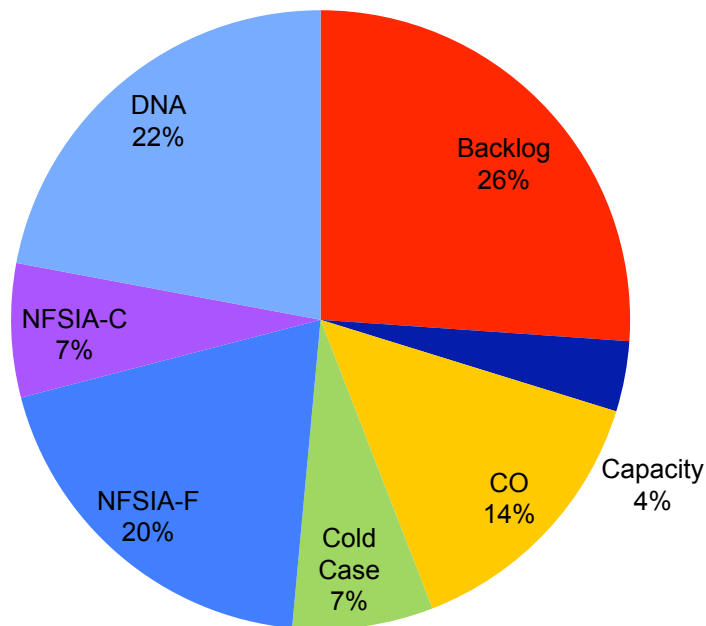
After 2010, VT will be assessed every odd year

- NIJ assesses 100 percent of grants within a two-year cycle and tracks grantee progress in meeting program goals and objectives

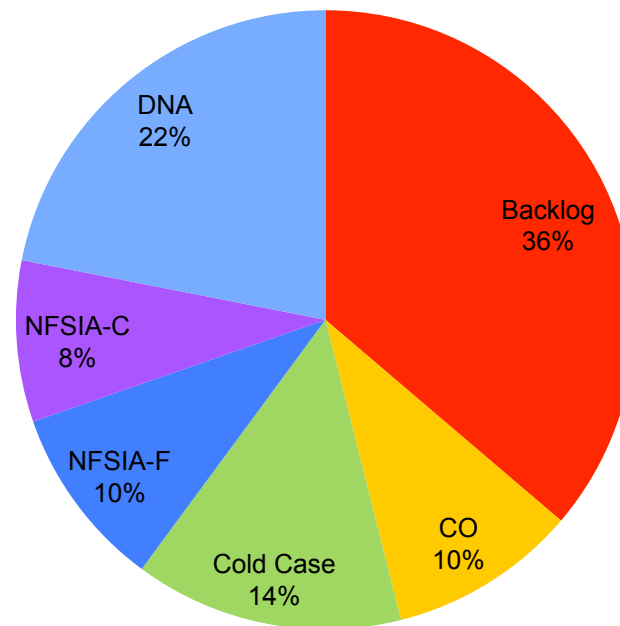


Assessment Breakdown

2009 Reports

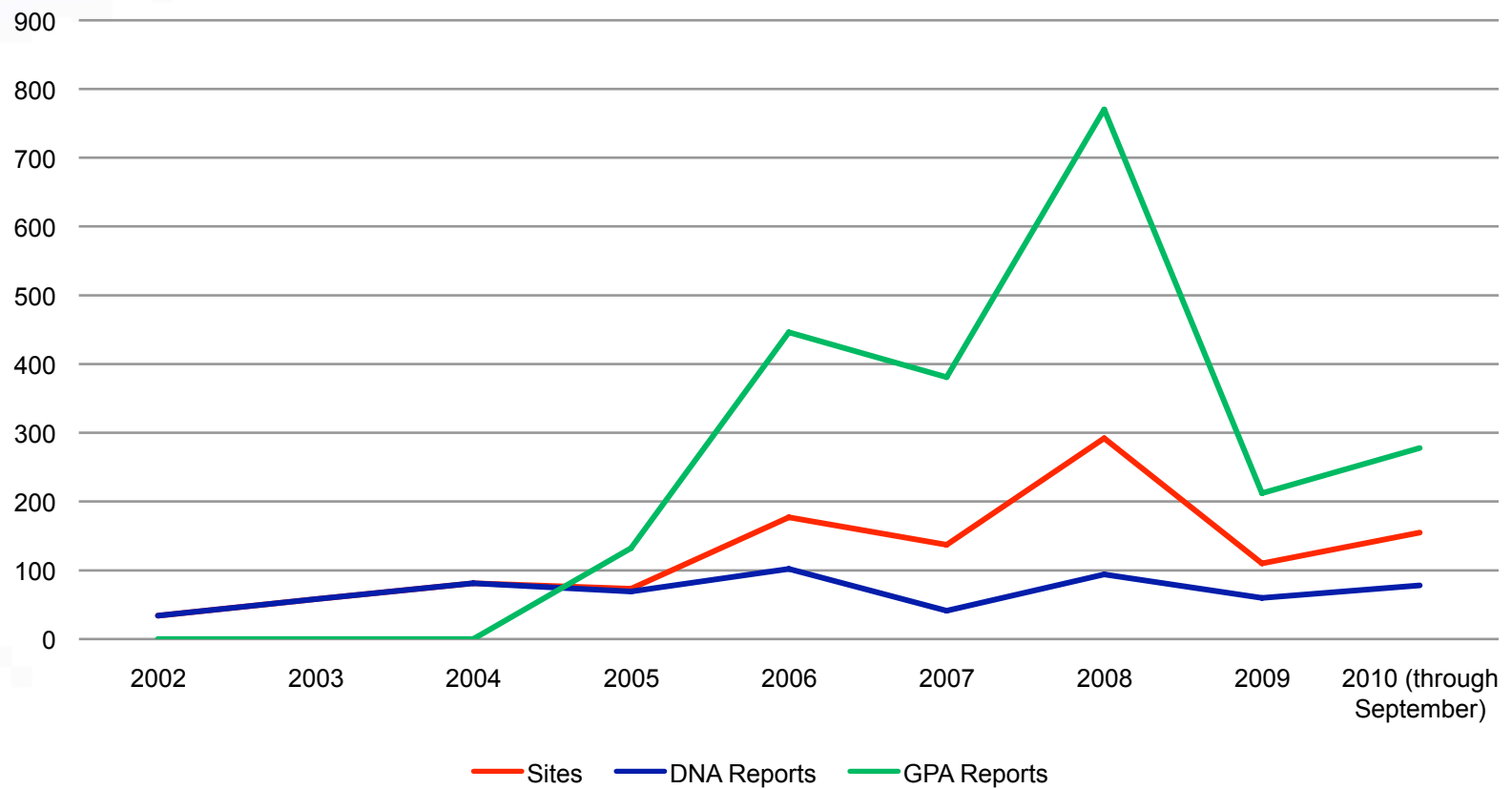


2010 Reports (Jan. - Sept.)





GPA/DNA Audit Progression Analysis





GPA Process

NFSTC team conducts assessment and generates report



GPA PM reviews report, clarifies any concerns, and sends the report to the grantee agency



Grantee responds to findings and proposed remedial tasks



Program Managers review responses and determine adequacy



GPA PM works with Program Managers to closeout the assessment



Assessment Consequences

- Financial Audit
- OIG Investigation



Financial Audit

- Reasons for Financial Audit:
 - Inability to account for items purchased
 - Purchasing items with award funding and using the items for unintended purposes
 - Comingling or supplanting of funds
 - Incomplete financial records
 - Presenting misleading or false invoices for items that supposedly are in support of the award



OIG Investigation

- Reasons for OIG Investigation:
 - Inability of an agency to provide requested financial records
 - Complete lack of financial control regarding award funds
 - Willful disregard of federal financial regulations



Avoiding Investigation

- In the past, agencies have been scheduled for audits and corrective actions have been taken
- This is a serious situation! To avoid OCFO/OIG audits, we want to make you aware of all federal financial rules

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/financialguide/part1/part1chap1.htm>



GPA Program Utilization

- The GPA Program was designed to be educational. Leverage this program, consult with your respective NIJ Program Manager to address current programmatic and technical issues, as well as avoid future ones



Resources

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

ABOUT NIJ | WHAT'S NEW | ALL TOPICS A-Z | CONTACT US

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE
Research • Development • Evaluation

Search
Advanced Search

HOME | FUNDING | PUBLICATIONS | EVENTS | TRAINING | TOPICS | MULTIMEDIA

FEATURED TOPIC

All Topics A-Z

Corrections

Courts

Crimes (Types of)

Crime Prevention

Drugs & Crime

Forensic Sciences

Law Enforcement

Technology & Tools

Tribal Crime and Justice

Victims & Victimization

MAKING SENSE OF DNA BACKLOGS

Backlogs of DNA evidence in crime laboratories have continued to grow despite heavy expenditures by federal, state and local agencies.

With so much spending taking place, why does the backlog persist?

The *NIJ Journal* explores how demand for DNA testing has surged so fast in recent years that even labs that have installed better equipment and hired more people have trouble keeping up with all the work. The article also describes NIJ programs that are helping agencies make more progress in DNA testing.

[Read the article.](#)

GET NIJ UPDATES

Sign up for e-mail updates

Subscribe to the *NIJ Journal*

Subscribe to the News Feed

HIGHLIGHTS

FINGERPRINT SOURCEBOOK

The *Fingerprint Sourcebook* is the definitive guide to the science of fingerprint identification. NIJ, which is publishing the sourcebook in stages, has released three new chapters covering:

- Latent Print Development (pdf, 68 pages)
- The Preservation of Friction Ridge Information (pdf, 21 pages)
- Special Abilities and Vulnerabilities in Forensic Expertise (pdf, 24 pages)

[See all available chapters.](#)

WATCH & LISTEN

- Watch *Research in the Real World* seminars
- Participate in an online expert chat
- See all Multimedia from NIJ

See also Justice.gov Videos

See also Office of Justice Programs Videos

I WANT TO...

Funding

- Review current solicitations
- Find or manage funding

Events

- Find an Event
- Go to the NIJ Conference

Training

- Find a course
- Sign up for e-mail alert

Publications

- See recently published
- Search NIJ pubs
- Read the *NIJ Journal*

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/>

nfstc
SCIENCE SERVING JUSTICE

Programs | DNA/GPA Program | DNA Training | Forensics Training | Forensic Technology | Working with NFSTC | About Us | Newsroom | Resources | Contact Us

Trace evidence samples are prepared for testing.

nfstc

Ensuring Public Safety by Advancing Forensic Science

The **National Forensic Science Technology Center (NFSTC)** is dedicated to supporting the justice community through innovative research, programs, evaluation of the latest technologies, forensic science education and laboratory quality reviews. Our goal is for all stakeholders to receive and provide the highest level of forensic science services.

We work closely with a variety of agencies including the National Institute of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Defense Threat Reduction Agency and laboratories nationwide to deliver programs that leverage our nation's brightest minds to advance the field of forensic science.

News at NFSTC

Employment Opportunity: NamUs Regional Services Specialist

Posted on September 10, 2010

We are currently seeking a NamUs Regional Services Specialist at our Largo, FL corporate office location. This position is responsible to perform Regional Services administration activities including system utilization support and case management scheduling, data acquisition, and verification. Position closes at 12:00 PM Eastern Time, on Tuesday, September 14, 2010.

[read more...](#)

NFSTC is now on Facebook!

Posted on September 10, 2010

Check the NFSTC Facebook page for updates from forensic science conferences and events.

[read more...](#)

NFSTC launches Forensic Innovation Center to expand services

Enter your email address to receive NFSTC updates:

Delivered by **FeedBurner**


Events

No events to show

<http://www.nfstc.org/assessments/>




Resources

 <p>Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs National Institute of Justice</p>	<p>AWARD CONTINUATION SHEET Cooperative Agreement</p>	<p>PAGE 2 OF 7</p>
<p>PROJECT NUMBER 2008-DN-BX-K038 AWARD DATE 09/05/2008</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>SPECIAL CONDITIONS</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The recipient agrees to comply with the financial and administrative requirements set forth in the current edition of the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Financial Guide. The recipient acknowledges that failure to submit an acceptable Equal Employment Opportunity Plan (if recipient is required to submit one pursuant to 28 C.F.R. Section 42.302), that is approved by the Office for Civil Rights, is a violation of its Certified Assurances and may result in suspension or termination of funding, until such time as the recipient is in compliance. The recipient agrees to comply with the organizational audit requirements of OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations, as further described in the current edition of the OJP Financial Guide, Chapter 19. Recipient understands and agrees that it cannot use any federal funds, either directly or indirectly, in support of the enactment, repeal, modification or adoption of any law, regulation or policy, at any level of government, without the express prior written approval of OJP. Privacy; quality assurance; CODIS/NDIS <p>The Recipient shall ensure that each DNA analysis conducted under this award is maintained pursuant to all applicable Federal privacy requirements, including those described in 42 U.S.C. section 14132(b)(3).</p> <p>The Recipient shall ensure that all DNA analyses conducted with funding under this award are performed either (1) by accredited government-owned laboratories, or (2) through accredited fee-for-service vendors. Accreditation must be by a nonprofit professional association of persons actively involved in forensic science that is nationally recognized within the forensic science community.</p> <p>The Recipient shall ensure that any laboratory that conducts DNA analyses under this program undergoes external audits, not less than once every two years, that demonstrate compliance with DNA Quality Assurance Standards established by the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.</p> <p>The Recipient agrees to notify NIJ immediately upon any change in the accreditation status of any of its forensic science laboratories that receive funding under this award.</p> <p>The Recipient shall ensure that all eligible forensic DNA profiles obtained with funding under this award will be entered into the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS), and, where applicable, uploaded to the National DNA Index System (NDIS).</p> <p>If any government-owned forensic laboratory that will receive funding under this award to conduct DNA analyses is not a member of NDIS, the laboratory must have a written agreement in place with an NDIS-participating laboratory for the resulting eligible forensic DNA profiles to be entered into CODIS, and where applicable uploaded into NDIS.</p>		

Award Package: Special Conditions

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

 **OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS**
Innovation • Partnerships • Safer Neighborhoods

[OJP HOME](#) | [ABOUT](#) | [NEWSROOM](#) | [FUNDING](#) | [FOR CONGRESS](#) | [TRAINING & TA](#) | [CONTACT US](#)

OJP TOPICS

- American Indian & Alaska Native Affairs
- Corrections
- Courts
- Juvenile Justice
- Law Enforcement
- Research, Statistics & Evaluation
- Substance Abuse & Crime
- Technology to Fight Crime
- Victims of Crime

Part I - Chapter 1: Users

HIGHLIGHTS OF CHAPTER

- Direct Recipients
- Subrecipients
- Individuals
- Contractors

This document is provided for the use of all recipients and their subrecipients of Federal grant programs administered by OJP. This Guide is to serve as the primary reference for financial management and grants administration. Specific organizations and individuals that are to use this Guide include:

DIRECT RECIPIENTS

Block, formula, and discretionary recipients shall adhere to the provisions of this Guide. Programmatic and technical requirements for block, formula, and discretionary recipients are contained in the program guidelines.

SUBRECIPIENTS

Units of government and other organizations receiving Federal financial assistance from the State shall adhere to applicable State laws and procedures. The circulars and government-wide common rules specific to that organization type should also apply.

INDIVIDUALS

Individuals from the above organizations who may use this Guide include administrators, financial management specialists, grants management specialists, accountants, and auditors. These individuals are to use the Guide as their financial policy reference in executing their duties under agency-funded programs and projects. Additionally, the document is structured to serve as a training manual for new employees.

Financial Guide



Resources

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
National Institute of Justice

OMB No. 1121-0329



The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is pleased to announce that it is seeking applications for funding under the Fiscal Year 2010 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program. This program furthers the Department's mission by offering an opportunity for States and units of local government with existing crime laboratories that conduct DNA analysis to handle, screen, and analyze backlogged forensic DNA casework samples, as well as to improve DNA laboratory infrastructure and analysis capacity so that forensic DNA samples can be processed efficiently and cost effectively. These improvements are critical to preventing future DNA backlogs and to helping the criminal justice system use the full potential of DNA technology.

Solicitation: FY 2010 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program

Eligibility

See "Eligibility," page 3.

Deadline

Registration with [OJP's Grant Management System \(GMS\)](#) is required prior to application submission. (See "How to Apply," page 14.)

All applications are due by 11:45 p.m. eastern time on May 14, 2010.
(See "Deadlines: Registration and Application," page 3.)

Contact Information

For technical assistance with submitting the application, contact the Grants Management System Support Hotline at 1-888-549-9901, option 3 or via e-mail to GMS.HelpDesk@usdoj.gov.

Note: The [GMS](#) Support Hotline hours of operation are Monday-Friday from 6:00 a.m. to midnight eastern time, except for Federal holidays.

For assistance with any other requirement of this solicitation, contact Mark Nelson, Senior Program Manager, at 202-616-1960 or by e-mail to Mark.S.Nelson@usdoj.gov, or Minh Nguyen, Program Manager, at 202-305-2664 or by e-mail to Minh.Nguyen@usdoj.gov.

SL# 000871

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
National Institute of Justice



The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice is seeking applications for funding under the fiscal year (FY) 2009 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program. This program furthers the Department's mission by providing States and units of local government with tools needed to meet the challenges of crime and justice. Specifically, this program seeks to improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science and medical examiner services, including services provided by laboratories operated by States and units of local government.

Solicitation: Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program

Eligibility

Applicants are limited to States (including territories) and units of local government. State Administering Agencies (SAAs) apply on behalf of States.

(See "Eligibility," page 3)

Deadline

Registration with [OJP's Grant Management System \(GMS\)](#) is required prior to application submission.

(See "Registration," page 3)

All applications are due May 29, 2009, 11:45 p.m. eastern time.

Contact Information

For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, contact Alan Spanbauer, Program Manager, at 202-305-2436 or alan.spanbauer@usdoj.gov.

This application must be submitted through OJP's Grants Management System (GMS). For technical assistance with submitting the application, call the Grants Management System Support Hotline at 1-888-549-9901, option 3.

Note: The GMS Support Hotline hours of operation are Monday-Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. eastern time.

SL# 000870



Accessing Expired Solicitations



OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

[ABOUT NIJ](#) | [WHAT'S NEW](#) | [ALL TOPICS A-Z](#) | [CONTACT US](#)

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE

Research • Development • Evaluation

Search
Advanced Search

[HOME](#) | [FUNDING](#) | [PUBLICATIONS](#) | [EVENTS](#) | [TRAINING](#) | [TOPICS](#) | [MULTIMEDIA](#)

[NIJ Home Page](#) > [Funding](#)

FUNDING

[Current Funding Opportunities](#)

[Forthcoming Solicitations](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Human Subjects and Privacy Protection](#)

[Proposal Review](#)

[Register as a Peer Reviewer](#)

[Guidelines Regarding Non-Competitive Awards](#)

[Data Resources Program](#)

[Graduate Research Fellowship](#)

[Laboratory Enhancement Funding](#)

[Funding for Equipment](#)

Expired Solicitations: 2008 - 2010

Expired Solicitations: 2008 - 2010

[Call for Papers on Reentry \(pdf\)](#)

(Posted: May 18, 2010)

Due: July 30, 2010 12:00 AM eastern time.

[OJJDP Solicitation: Recovery Act -- Needs Assessment and Developmental Activities for the National Internet Crimes Against Children Data System \(NDIS\) \(pdf\)](#)

(Posted: June 3, 2010)

Due: July 15, 2010 08:00 PM eastern time.

[NIJ's Visiting Fellowship Program \(pdf\)](#)

(Posted: May 5, 2010)

Due: June 21, 2010 11:59 PM eastern time.

[Development, Delivery, and Evaluation of Sexual Assault Forensic Training Programs \(pdf\)](#)

(Posted: May 7, 2010)

Due: June 21, 2010 11:45 PM eastern time.

[Research on Eyewitness Identification Policies and Procedures \(pdf\)](#)

(Posted: April 16, 2010)

Due: June 14, 2010 11:45 PM eastern time.

[Evaluation of the Multi-site Demonstration Field Experiment: What Works in Reentry Research \(pdf\)](#)

(Posted: April 14, 2010)

- Text size:
- [Print this page](#)
- [E-mail this page](#)
- [Feedback](#)
- [Subscriptions](#)



Further GPA Involvement

- All grant managers are encouraged to become Grant Progress Assessors
- Being an assessor is a great way to:
 - Gain exposure to new techniques and methods
 - Interact with peers
 - Make a positive contribution to the forensic science community
- Being an assessor will help ensure that you receive the greatest benefit from the awards and improve your laboratory's capabilities

nfstc
SCIENCE SERVING JUSTICE

NFSTC Programs ▾ DNA/GPA Program ▾ DNA Training ▾ Forensics Training ▾ Forensic Technology ▾ Working with NFSTC ▾ About Us ▾ Newsroom ▾ Resources ▾ Contact Us

Become an Assessor/Auditor

The NFSTC Assessment Program enlists highly qualified and trained assessors to provide high quality DNA audits and grant assessments. The program has two components: External DNA audits and Grant Progress Assessments (GPA), each requiring assessors with varied skills and abilities.

DNA Technical Auditor must:

- Have successfully completed the FBI DNA Auditor Training Program
- Remain proficient in the field of DNA testing
- Have the ability to remain objective and non-biased
- Always conduct themselves in a professional manner

GPA Assessor must:

- Have present or previous grant management experience
- Have the ability to remain objective and non-biased
- Always conduct themselves in a professional manner

To Apply:

Individuals interested in becoming a contractor for the NFSTC Assessment Program may apply by downloading, filling out and returning ALL of the following application documents:

Travel Profile
Photo permission form and current photo for Traveler Card
Assessor Information
Assessor Application

Please email the completed forms to: assessment@nfstc.org

If you would prefer to mail your completed forms, please send them to:

Assessments
Attn: Damaris Cornett
National Forensic Science Technology Center
7881 114th Ave. IV

NFSTC Images

Sample explosives for post-blast reconstruction training.

Making a Difference

"...this symposium has been among the very best technical conferences I have attended in my many years in forensic science."

~Anonymous
2009 Trace Evidence Symposium

Enter your email address to receive NFSTC updates:

Delivered by [FeedBurner](#)

Events

No events to show



Contact Information

Patricia A. Kashtan

Program Operations Specialist

U.S. Department of Justice - OJP

National Institute of Justice - OIFS

810 7th Street, NW

Washington, D.C. 20531

patricia.kashtan@usdoj.gov

Phone: 202-353-1856

Fax: 202-307-9907