NIJ TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGAM (TAP)

About Our Program



The NIJ Technical Assistance Program (NIJ TAP) at Marshall University provides the forensic science community with graduate-level forensic science

students experienced in utilizing instrumentation, commercial kits, manual methods, and software programs commonly found in DNA Unit Crime Laboratories. These students will work in conjunction with forensic DNA laboratories to provide needed internal validation technical assistance.

The MUFSC Solution

The Marshall University Forensic Science Center (MUFSC) is home to an accredited CODIS and casework laboratory and a FEPAC-accredited forensic science graduate program. This unique blend of educational programs and forensic DNA testing makes MUFSC an ideal organization to provide technical assistance, free of charge, to state and local laboratories.

To apply for the Technical Assistance Program, interested laboratories must complete the MU-NIJ Technical Assistance Program (TAP) Request Form. Information from this survey is used to determine if an appropriate "fit" exists between your laboratory and MUFSC. If so, MUFSC will work with your laboratory



to design a customized training program for the Technical Assistant. The Technical Assistant will undertake this training during the fall and spring and, during the summer, he/she

will arrive in your laboratory ready to perform validation studies.

Available Technologies

MUFSC can provide one or more students with technology-specific training and education to meet your validation needs. In this way students are prepared in our facilities to successfully complete the project of your design. You define your needs by choosing from a wide-array of technologies while we do the training. A menu of MUFSC-available instrumentation, software systems, and kits is available on the back of this flyer.



How to Apply

Laboratories interested in taking advantage of the Technical Assistance Program at Marshall should contact the Program Coordinator, Dr. Pam Staton via staton1@marshall.edu.

Requests made from September to December will be considered as they are received. By beginning the process early, students and participating laboratories will be prepared for the beginning of the validation process in May.

Visit our websites:

MU Forensic Science Academic Program TAP page: www.marshall.edu/forensics/tap

Marshall University Forensic Science Center Website: forensics.marshall.edu

Disclaimer

This project was supported by Cooperative Agreement Number 2009-IJ-CX-K111 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, US Department of Justice. The opinions, findings and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice.



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MUFSC LABORATORY INFORMATION

MUFSC-AVAILABLE TECHNOLOGIES

Interested laboratories will be asked to select and prioritize their validation needs from the list below:

STR Instruments:

- Applied Biosystems Prism® 310 •
- Applied Biosystems Prism® 3100 •
- Applied Biosystems 3130 •
- Applied Biosystems 3130 xl .
- Applied Biosystems 3500 xl

Real Time PCR Instruments:

- Applied Biosystems 7000
- Applied Biosystems 7500 •
- Qiagen Rotor-gene Q

Automation Workstations:

- Beckman Biomek® 2000
- Beckman Biomek® 3000 •
- Maxwell™ 16 System •
- Qiagen EZ1 Workstation
- Qiagen QIAgility .
- Qiagen QiaCube •

Amplification Kits:

- Applied Biosystems Cofiler® •
- Applied Biosystems Identifiler®
- Applied Biosystems Identifiler® Plus .
- Applied Biosystems Identifiler® Direct
- Applied Biosystems Minifiler™ .
- Applied Biosystems Profiler Plus®
- Applied Biosystems Yfiler®
- Promega Powerplex® 16 .
- Promega Powerplex® 16 HS •
- Promega Powerplex® Y System
- Promega Powerplex 18D •

Quantification Kits:

- Applied Biosystems Quantifiler® Human DNA • Quantification Kit
- Applied Biosystems Quantifiler® Y Human Male • **DNA Quantification Kit**
- Applied Biosystems Quantifiler® Duo DNA • Quantification Kit
- Maven Analytical MavenQST™
- Promega Plexor® HY System •

Analysis Software Systems:

- Applied Biosystems GeneMapper® ID v3.2.1 •
- Applied Biosystems GeneMapper® ID-X • v1.1/1.2
- Applied Biosystems GeneMapper® ID-X v1.3 .
- FSS-i³ ™, v4.2.2 . (distributed in the US by the Promega Corporation)
- Cybergenetics True Allele® Databank, v9, Build . number 230
- Cybergenetics True Allele® Casework,
- HID RT PCR v1.1 software

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What does the Technical Assistance Program cost? There is no cost to your laboratory for participating in the NIJ Technical Assistance

Program. Technical Assistants will, however. receive a stipend from the National Institute of Justice and a tuition waiver from MUFSC.

Who should apply? Accredited laboratories, or those interested in becoming accredited, should consider participating in the program.

What makes Technical Assistants unique?

Technical Assistants are carefully selected graduate students currently enrolled in Marshall University's, FEPAC-accredited, forensic science program. Each Technical Assistant has a minimum 3.0 Grade Point Average (GPA), has successfully completed a Marshall University Background Check, and is completing the DNA Analysis Emphasis.

What is the anticipated timeline?

Technical Assistants spend approximately eight months being trained at MUFSC and 3 months (a maximum of 12 weeks) in the host lab.

May technical assistants take on other duties

at your lab? Yes. Technical Assistants are encouraged to participate in other activities at your laboratory, at your discretion.

ANTICIPATED TIMELINE

We encourage laboratories to submit TAP request anytime throughout the year. A typical timeline of events is as follows:

- August to December—Surveys received, reviewed, and validation needs identified
- August to December—Assistants complete • accelerated DNA course at MUFSC
- **December**—Participating laboratories chosen •
- January to May—Assistants receive wet laboratory specific training
- May—Assistants arrive at your laboratory to • begin their 10-12 week project
- August—Assistants return to MUFSC

Visit www.marshall.edu/ forensics/tap for more information, and to submit a TAP Request.



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