

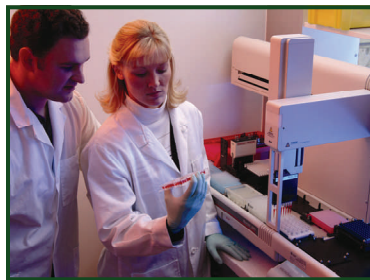


# Master of Science Degree Program

## Our Tradition of Excellence

The Marshall University Forensic Science Center was founded in 1994 to meet the growing need for forensic scientists in the law enforcement community. Since then, the program has grown into a nationally-recognized leader in forensic science education. It is currently one of only a handful of forensic science graduate degree programs in the United States accredited by FEPAC and has graduated more than 150 crime lab scientists, forensic researchers, government agents, and laboratory managers working throughout the world.

The success of any program is measured by the success of its alumni. Marshall graduates are employed by the FBI, Secret Service, ATF, DEA, the Armed Forces DNA



Identification Laboratory, insurance agencies, private lab facilities, crime scene units and toxicology facilities for more than three dozen state and local agencies. Some graduates are self-employed, working as private forensic consultants

on criminal and civil litigation. Many Marshall graduates also work as instructors and adjunct faculty at higher education institutions throughout the United States and Europe.

While the opportunities for forensic scientists in general are numerous and varied, a graduate level education provides students with a competitive advantage, leads to technical leadership of laboratories and departments, and grants unique opportunities to teach future generations of forensic scientists.

## Admission Requirements

Admission to the Forensic Science Program is highly selective. Approximately 20 students are admitted each year. We encourage all applicants to consider carefully his or her motivations and interests in forensic science and explore these interests where possible through undergraduate coursework, summer internships, and work in a laboratory or forensic science facility.



*The Master of Science Degree Program is FEPAC accredited by the American Academy of Forensic Sciences*

## Materials Required for Admission

- A baccalaureate degree in a natural science or forensic science, or its equivalent coursework in a relevant field, from an accredited institution of higher learning with a recommended GPA of 3.0 or higher
- One year of biology, physics, chemistry, and organic chemistry, all with their associated laboratories
- A minimum score of 1000 on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- Three letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with the applicant's academic performance, moral character, and work ethic received on formal letterhead
- A personal letter from the applicant providing justification for his or her admission to the program.
- A completed Application for Graduate Admission form, which can be found at the link below: [www.marshall.edu/mugc/grad\\_app.html](http://www.marshall.edu/mugc/grad_app.html)
- A completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid ([www.fafsa.ed.gov/](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/)). This should be completed as soon after Jan. 1 as possible.
- A completed Application Checklist. This can be accessed by going to <http://forensics.marshall.edu>. Click on Master of Science Degree Program and then on Application Checklist or go direct: <http://forensics.marshall.edu/MSDegree/PDFs/Admin-Checklist08.pdf>.

All application materials must be submitted to the Marshall Univ. Graduate Admissions Office by March 1st.

## Common Market Information

Common Market is a program by which students from states without a MS in forensic science program can receive the equivalent of in-state tuition. As of 2008, those states include North Carolina, South Carolina, Delaware, Kentucky, Louisiana, Texas and Georgia.

## Financial Aid Information

There are many forms of financial support available to graduate students who have completed their FAFSA including loans, graduate and teaching assistantships, work studies and scholarship waivers. Please contact the financial aid office for more information.

## Background Check

Students entering the academic program will be required to pass a background check.

## Hepatitis B Information

For their safety while working with human body fluids, students may be required to submit vaccination status records or receive certain vaccinations while in the program; including the Hepatitis B vaccine series.