



Application for Forensic Science Accreditation - NEW Program Concentration
(FEPAC Accredited Programs ONLY)

Part 1: Current Forensic Science Program Information

Name of Institution:		
City, State:		
Institution Type:	☐ Private	☐ Public
Currently Accredited Degree (BS, MS):		
Currently Accredited Concentration (e.g., Biology (FEPAC 4.7)):		
Accreditation Expiration Date:		

Program Director Contact Information	
Current Program Director (name):	
Title(s) (i.e., Program Director/Professor, Associate Professor, Emeritus Faculty, Instructor, etc.):	
Mailing Address:	
Telephone:	
E-mail:	
Program Website:	

Part 2: Purpose of Application

(enter information in the white boxes)

The Applicant is pursuing the following application status :	☐ Application to accredit a new <i>Undergraduate</i> Program <i>Concentration</i>	☐ Application to accredit a new <i>Graduate</i> Program <i>Concentration</i>
Enter the Name of FEPAC-Accredited Program with which the new concentration will be associated (e.g., Forensic Science, Forensic and Investigative Science, Forensic Chemistry): Click or tap here to enter text.	Enter the FEPAC Accredited Program Degree level (e.g., BS, MS, etc.): Click or tap here to enter text.	
Enter the NEW concentration(s) name(s) (i.e., Option in Forensic Toxicology, Emphasis in Forensic Molecular Biology, Forensic Investigations, etc.): Click or tap here to enter text.	Select the FEPAC Accreditation Track(s) standards requested to be used to evaluate the NEW Concentration(s) (Select all that apply): <u>Undergraduate Concentration Tracks:</u> ☐ Forensic Science/Criminalistics (FEPAC 4.6) ☐ Biology (FEPAC 4.7) ☐ Chemistry (FEPAC 4.8) ☐ Digital Evidence/Digital Forensics (FEPAC 4.9) ☐ Crime Scene Investigation (FEPAC 4.10) <u>Graduate Concentration Tracks:</u> ☐ Biology/Chemistry/General (FEPAC 5.3) ☐ Digital Evidence (FEPAC 5.4)	
Please specify the Department, Division School, College, and/or Division that the offers the program:		

Will a new Program Director be appointed for this new concentration? If yes, fill out the table below and submit CV.

Program Director Contact Information	
New Program Director (name):	
Title(s) (i.e., Program Director/Professor, Associate Professor, Emeritus Faculty, Instructor, etc.):	
Mailing Address:	
Telephone:	
E-mail:	
Program Website:	

Part 3: General Standards

Describe any additional financial resources the institution makes available to the additional concentration(s).

Describe the physical facilities available to the additional concentration(s), including classrooms, laboratories, and any other facilities the program routinely uses. List any additional equipment available to the additional concentration(s). Photographs of equipment and laboratory floorplans available to the additional concentration(s) may be supplied if applicable.

List the names, degrees (level and discipline), and titles of the Program Director and all faculty who teach forensic science courses specific for the new concentration. Forensic science faculty includes any faculty or instructional staff member who teaches forensic science course specific for the new concentration.

For each person listed, attach a curriculum vita (CV).

Do not list faculty who teach general education courses required by the institution or program.

Name	Degree	Title	Full/Part Time
John Smith	PhD, Chemistry	Director, Faculty	Full Time

Describe any special support services the program provides to forensic science students in the additional concentration(s) (e.g., a special orientation program for forensic science students or special faculty advising).

Is any distance learning associated with the additional concentration(s)? If yes, outline the courses and describe how does the curriculum differ from that used in a traditional setting (i.e., professor and students in the same place [classroom/lab] at the same time? What is the nature of the content delivery?

Part 4: FEPAC Undergraduate Curriculum Worksheet

Only submit information in sections 4.6-4.10 for any *new* concentrations being applied for.

Provide syllabi for all courses listed.

4.5 SPECIFIC EMPHASIS TRACKS CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Programs with no concentrations or tracks complete 4.6 Criminalistics.

Programs with concentration, track, or emphasis in Biology complete 4.7

Programs with concentration, track, or emphasis in Chemistry complete 4.8

Programs with concentration, track, or emphasis in Digital Evidence/Digital Forensics complete 4.9

Programs with concentration, track, or emphasis in Crime Scene Investigation complete 4.10

4.6 Criminalistics

4.6.2 a) Biology: At least two courses, which include the co-requisite laboratory, in biology for science majors (**minimum 7 credit hours**)

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.6.2 b) Physics: At least two courses which include co-requisite laboratory in physics for science majors (**minimum 7 credit hours**)

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.6.2 c) Chemistry: At least four courses which include co-requisite laboratory.

1. Two courses in general chemistry (**minimum 7 credit hours**); and
2. Two courses in organic chemistry (**minimum 7 credit hours**)

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.6.2 d) Mathematics: At least two courses.

1. One course in differential and integral calculus (**minimum 3 credit hours**); and
2. One course in statistics (**minimum 3 credit hours**)

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.6.3 Specialized Science Courses

A program shall include specialized science courses consisting of a minimum of **15 additional credit hours** in more advanced coursework in chemistry and/or biology.

- a) These classes shall be consistent with the degree program and meet the needs of students specializing in sub-disciplines of forensic science.
- b) Introductory level courses shall not be used to fulfill this requirement; and
- c) At least two of the classes shall be semester-long, or equivalent, laboratory courses (**minimum 7 credit hours**).

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.6.4 Forensic Science Courses

A program shall include a minimum of **six additional credit hours** in advanced, upper-level forensic science courses that provide greater depth in forensic science beyond an introductory level Biology or Chemistry courses that have a few forensically themed assignments are not sufficient to meet this standard. These courses do not need to have a Forensic Science prefix, but they must have forensic-specific content as the main purpose of the course. These shall include:

- a) A semester-long, or equivalent, accompanying laboratory component; and
- b) Courses designed for the forensic science program that predominantly cover forensic-specific topics.

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.7 Biology

4.7.2 a) Biology: At least two courses, which include the co-requisite laboratory, in biology for science majors (**minimum 7 credit hours**)

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.7.2 b) Physics: At least two courses which include co-requisite laboratory in physics for science majors (**minimum 7 credit hours**)

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.7.2 c) Chemistry: At least four courses, which include the co-requisite laboratory.

1. Two of the courses shall be in general chemistry for science majors (**minimum 7 credit hours**); and
2. Two of the courses shall be in organic chemistry for science majors (**minimum 7 credit hours**)

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.7.2 d) Mathematics: At least two courses.

1. One course in differential and integral calculus (**minimum 3 credit hours**); and
2. One course in statistics (**minimum 3 credit hours**)

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.7.3 Specialized Science Courses

A program shall include specialized science courses consisting of a minimum of **15 additional credit hours** in more advanced coursework in chemistry and/or biology that provide greater depth or breadth and are consistent with the biology concentration specialization.

- a) These shall, at a minimum, meet current FBI QAS requirements.
- b) Introductory level courses shall not be used to fulfill this requirement; and
- c) At least two of the courses shall include a semester-long, or equivalent, accompanying laboratory component (**minimum 7 credit hours**).

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.7.4 Advanced Forensic Science Courses

A program shall include a minimum of **six additional credit hours** in advanced, upper-level forensic science courses that provide greater depth in forensic applications of biology beyond an introductory level. Biology courses that have a few forensically themed assignments are not sufficient to meet this standard. These courses do not need to have a Forensic Science prefix, but they must have forensic-specific content as the main purpose of the course. These shall include:

- a) A semester-long, or equivalent, accompanying laboratory component; and
- b) Courses designed for the forensic science program that predominantly cover forensic-specific topics.

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.8 Chemistry

4.8.2 a) Biology: At least two courses which include a semester-long, or equivalent, laboratory in biology for science majors. (minimum 7 credit hours)

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.8.2 b) Physics: At least two courses which include a semester-long, or equivalent, laboratory in physics for science majors (minimum 7 credit hours)

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.8.2 c) Chemistry: At least four courses, which include a semester-long, or equivalent, accompanying laboratory component.

1. Two courses in general chemistry (minimum 7 credit hours); and
2. Two courses in organic chemistry (minimum 7 credit hours)

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.8.2 d) Mathematics: At least two courses.

1. One course in differential and integral calculus (minimum 3 credit hours); and
2. One course in statistics (minimum 3 credit hours)

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.8.3 Specialized Science Courses

A program shall include specialized science courses consisting of a minimum of **15 additional credit hours** in more advanced coursework in chemistry or biology that provide greater depth or breadth and are consistent with the chemistry concentration specialization.

- a) These classes shall be consistent with the degree program and meet the needs of students specializing in chemistry sub-disciplines of forensic science.
- b) Introductory level courses shall not be used to fulfill this requirement; and
- c) At least two of the courses shall include a semester-long, or equivalent, accompanying laboratory component (minimum 7 credit hours)

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.8.4 Forensic Science Courses

A program shall include a minimum of **six additional credit hours** in advanced, upper-level forensic science courses that provide greater depth in forensic applications of chemistry beyond an introductory level are required. Chemistry courses that have a few forensically themed assignments are not sufficient to meet this standard. These courses do not need to have a Forensic Science prefix, but they must have forensic-specific content as the main purpose of the course. These shall include:

- a) A semester-long, or equivalent, accompanying laboratory component; and
- b) Courses designed for the forensic science program that predominantly cover forensic-specific topics.

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.9 Digital Evidence

4.9.2 a) Mathematics: At least two courses that include any combination of the following 3 credit hours courses:

1. Business Calculus
2. Calculus I
3. Calculus II
4. Business Statistics
5. Statistics I
6. Statistics II
7. Discrete Mathematics

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours

4.9.2 b) Sciences: At least two courses which include a semester-long, or equivalent, accompanying laboratory component (minimum 7 credit hours total) from the following list:

1. A Physical Science
2. General Chemistry I
3. General Biology I

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.9.3 Computer Science/Information Systems Courses

A minimum of 12 credit hours of coursework in computer science/information systems are required and shall include the following courses and topics:

a) At least one 3 credit hour course in computer programming (examples of acceptable languages include Java, Python, C++, Ruby, etc.); and

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

b) At least 6 credit hours in courses that cover the following topics:

1. Computer organization and structure
2. File systems and operating systems
3. Computer networking
4. Information assurance/network security
5. Data structures/database design
6. Web or mobile application design and development
7. Hardware structures

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.9.4 Specialized Digital Forensic Science Courses

A minimum of **6 additional credit hours** in specialized digital forensic science course work that covers the following topics:

- a) Acquisition of data
- b) Network/ “live” forensic analysis
- c) Exploitation of mobile devices; and
- d) Legal/digital evidence interface (e.g., search warrants)

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.10 Crime Scene Investigation

4.10.2 Natural Science Courses

4.10.2 a) Mathematics: At least one **3 credit hours** course in statistics.

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.10.2 b) Sciences: At least two courses, which include a semester-long, or equivalent, laboratory component (minimum **7 credit hours** total) from the following list:

1. A Physical Science
2. General Chemistry
3. General Biology

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

4.10.3 Crime Scene Courses

A minimum of **9 credit hours** of coursework shall include the following topics: NOTE: multiple courses may be used for each topic.

- a) Crime scene interface with other forensic disciplines (including recognition and collection of evidence for other disciplines and presumptive testing)
- b) Legal/crime scene interface (e.g., search warrants)
- c) History and theory of crime scene investigations
- d) Relevant and current crime scene investigation literature
- e) Nature and properties of evidence types
- f) Latent prints and/or other pattern evidence
- g) Bloodstain pattern analysis and interpretation
- h) Crime scene safety, firearm safety, blood borne pathogens, chemical safety, drug handling, security, interactions with police, public, media, and legal
- i) Crime scene search
- j) Crime scene equipment, instrumentation, and technologies
- k) Crime scene interpretation, analysis, and reconstruction
- l) Crime scene documentation, collection, contamination prevention (e.g., DNA), preservation, and enhancement; and
- m) Crime scene and evidence photography and videography

4.10.3 (continued) The curriculum must cover the topics in Standard 4.10.3. Using the table, indicate in which specific courses the topics are covered.

Use 'x' to represent topics covered in a course.

			a)	b)	c)	d)	e)	f)	g)	h)	i)	j)	k)	l)	m)
Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Crime scene interface w/ forensic disciplines	Legal /crime scene interface (e.g., search warrants)	History and theory of crime scene investigation	Crime scene investigation literature	Nature and properties of evidence types	Latent prints / Pattern evidence	Bloodstain pattern analysis	Crime Scene Safety	Crime scene search	Crime scene equipment	Crime scene interpretation	Crime scene documentation	Crime scene evidence photography & videography

4.10.4 Specialized Crime Scene Courses

The program shall include a minimum of **15 additional credit hours** in advanced, upper-level forensic science courses that provide greater depth in forensic applications of crime scene investigation.

a) At least 3 of these courses shall include accompanying laboratory components or significant hands-on experiences.

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Laboratory Required (Y/N)

Part 5: FEPAC Graduate Curriculum Worksheet

Only submit information in sections 5.3-5.4 for any *new* concentrations being applied for.
Provide syllabi for all courses listed.

5.3 Forensic Science Programs – Biology, Chemistry, General

5.3.1 & 5.3.2 The curriculum shall include the following topics with a minimum of nine instructional (contact) hours spent on each topic.

- a) Crime scene investigation

b) Law/science interface

c) Ethics and professional responsibilities

d) Quality assurance

e) Analytical chemistry and instrumental methods of analysis
- f) Drug chemistry/toxicology

g) Microscopy and materials analysis

h) Forensic biology

i) Pattern evidence

List the course ID, course name, credit hours, and instructional hours in which the required topics are addressed. Using the table, indicate in which specific courses the topics are covered. Use ‘x’ to represent topics covered in a course.

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	*Instructional Hours	Crime scene Investigation	Law / science interface	Ethics and professional responsibilities	Quality assurance	Analytical chemistry and instrumental methods of analysis	Drug chemistry / toxicology	Microscopy and materials analysis	Forensic biology	Pattern evidence

Credit Hours (semester hour)

A unit of measure representing the equivalent of an hour (50 or 60 minutes) of lecture instruction per week over the entire term. It is applied toward the total number of credit hours needed for completing the requirements of a degree, diploma, certificate, or other award. Credit hours for instruction other than lecture (such as lab, recitation, practicum, etc.) may require different numbers of hours per week as defined by each institution.

***Instructional Hour**

A unit of measure that represents a 50-min or 60-min class period of scheduled instruction given to students.

5.3.4. Courses in Specialized Areas – Biology and/or Chemistry

The curriculum shall include graduate-level science courses appropriate for specialization. For example, courses covering the topics of molecular biology and population genetics, advanced analytical chemistry, toxicology, and materials analysis may be appropriate.

Specialized courses offered may be specific for a track(s) and/or concentration(s) offered by that institution, if applicable.

List the specialized science courses students are **required** to take (both course number and course title).

If the program does not have any concentrations, so indicate.

The specialized courses should conform with any program concentrations. If the program has no concentrations, list specialized courses available to students as electives.

Course ID	Required (R) or Elective (E)	Name of Concentration or N/A (not applicable)	Course Name

5.3.5. Graduate Seminar

A formal seminar, presented by invited experts, faculty, and/or students covering topics such as published work, original research, and other relevant topics must be included within the curriculum as a requirement of a course.

List the course number and title students are required to take:

Course ID	Course Name

5.3.6. Forensic Science Research or Capstone

Each student is required to complete an independent research or capstone project.

Check to acknowledge:

☐ The academic program has written guidelines for the format of the thesis/report and for the evaluation of the oral presentation.

5.4. Forensic Science Programs - Digital Evidence

5.4.1 & 5.4.2 The curriculum shall include the following topics with a minimum of nine instructional (contact) hours spent on each topic:

- a) Crime scene investigation
- b) Law/science evidence
- c) Ethics and professional responsibilities
- d) Quality assurance
- e) Pattern evidence

List the course ID, course name, credit hours, and instructional hours in which the required topics are addressed. Using the table, indicate in which specific courses the topics are covered. Use 'x' to represent topics covered in a course.

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	*Instructional Hours	Crime scene Investigation	Law / science interface	Ethics and professional responsibilities	Quality assurance	Pattern evidence

Credit Hours (semester hour)

A unit of measure representing the equivalent of an hour (50 or 60 minutes) of lecture instruction per week over the entire term. It is applied toward the total number of credit hours needed for completing the requirements of a degree, diploma, certificate, or other award. Credit hours for instruction other than lecture (such as lab, recitation, practicum, etc.) may require different numbers of hours per week as defined by each institution.

***Instructional Hour**

A unit of measure that represents a 50-min or 60-min class period of scheduled instruction given to students.

5.4.4 Core in Specialized Area

The curriculum shall include the following graduate-level courses appropriate to digital forensics and include the following concepts or topics:

Topic	Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours
Hardware Forensics			
Software Forensics			
Network Forensics			
Mobile Device Forensics			

5.4.5 Advanced Digital Course

An advanced digital forensics course (requires a graduate course as a prerequisite).

Course ID	Course ID

5.4.6 Graduate Seminar

A formal seminar, presented by invited experts, faculty, and/or students covering topics such as published work, original research, and other relevant topics must be included within the curriculum as a requirement of a course.

Course ID	Course ID

5.4.7. Digital Evidence Research or Capstone

Each student is required to complete an independent research or capstone project.

Check to acknowledge:

- ☐ The academic program has written guidelines for the format of the thesis/report and for the evaluation of the oral presentation.

Part 6: Notification

In addition to the Program Director listed on page one of this application, the following individuals will be copied on correspondence and FEPAC decisions related to this program:

Name	Title	Email

Part 7: Authorization to Apply for Accreditation

The applicant institution's Chief Executive Officer or Authorized/Designated Administrator authorizes the forensic science program's application for accreditation by the Forensic Science Educational Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC).

Name:	
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Institution's Chief Executive Officer or Authorized/Designated Administrator

Title:	
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Signature:		Date:	
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e-signature is acceptable

An application fee (see FEPAC *Fees and Dues* policy) is required with the submission of the Institutional Application Packet (FEPAC Form 5.1.3). Both are due to the AAFS Office in order to begin the review process. Checks may be made payable to the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. Credit card payment (Visa, MasterCard, American Express) is also acceptable. If paying with a credit card, please provide Heather Jefferson the appropriate information and send to hjefferson@aaafs.org.

Revision History

Date Revised	Summary of Revisions	Approved By
7/1/26	New document.	Commission