

STATE OF OHIO (DAS)CLASSIFICATION
SPECIFICATION**CLASSIFICATION SERIES:**

Criminalist

SERIES NO.:

8614

MAJOR AGENCIES:

Commerce & Highway Patrol only

EFFECTIVE DATE:

10/2/2016

SERIES PURPOSE:

The purpose of the criminalist occupation is to perform forensic analyses & develop conclusions relating to evidence submitted in arson & criminal cases or to test evidence from other possible criminal situations.

This classification is to be used by the Department of Commerce & Highway Patrol only.

CLASS TITLE

Criminalist

CLASS NUMBER

86141

PAY RANGE

33

EFFECTIVE

10/2/2016

CLASS CONCEPT:

The full performance level class works under general direction & requires thorough knowledge of chemistry in order to perform forensic analyses & develop conclusions relating to evidence submitted in criminal cases or other suspected criminal activity, prepare findings, testify in court & provide technical information to arson/fire investigators & law enforcement officers.

<u>CLASS TITLE</u>	<u>CLASS NUMBER</u>	<u>B. U.</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>	<u>PAY RANGE</u>
Criminalist	86141	13	10/2/2016	33

JOB DUTIES IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE: (These duties are illustrative only. Incumbents may perform some or all of these duties or other job-related duties as assigned.)

Utilizes analytical techniques (e.g., gas chromatography, high-performance liquid chromatography, infra-red spectroscopy, mass spectrometry, wet chemical methods, microscopy, fingerprint development methods) to conduct forensic analysis on evidence (e.g., arson debris, latent prints, blood, urine, drugs, pre & post explosion samples, petroleum products, alcohol, clothing, human tissue, glass, hazardous materials) collected from crime scenes or hazardous situations & submitted to laboratory by arson/fire investigators & law enforcement officers.

Operates video display terminal & computers to monitor testing, interpret data & enter results; evaluates data & formulates scientific conclusions based on knowledge, skills, sound analytical processes & scientific principles; prepares findings of laboratory analyses for use by law enforcement agencies & courts of law; testifies before courts concerning analysis of evidence; explains substance of reports & technical items to fire investigators, police investigators, highway patrol, prosecutors, defense attorneys & courts; assists in developing testing & evidence handling policies/procedures.

Coordinates tests requested following State Fire Marshal Forensic or State Highway Patrol Laboratory methodology, guidelines & procedures, whichever is applicable, & other resources available for most effective method of testing; researches & interprets forensic & technical journals for information & to keep current on trends & techniques in forensic science; conducts laboratory tours; provides instruction & training to other state employees & investigators (e.g., provides information on proper evidence collection, accelerant behavior in fire & interpretation of laboratory results); attends seminars & meetings; conducts research & experiments in forensic science & quality assurance; assists with supply purchases; maintains laboratory equipment; assists in maintaining quality assurance tests on equipment & reagents.

MAJOR WORKER CHARACTERISTICS:

Knowledge of chemistry; chemical analyses; standard operating procedures & guidelines & standard methods applicable to State Fire Marshal Forensic Laboratory* or State Highway Patrol Crime Laboratory*; laboratory safety practices; employee training & development*. Skill in use & operation of laboratory equipment such as gas chromatograph, mass spectrometry, infra-red spectroscopy & microscope techniques; computer keyboard with video display terminal. Ability to understand abstract field of study; prepare meaningful, concise & accurate reports; handle sensitive inquiries from & contacts with officials & general public; demonstrate manual dexterity.

(*)Developed after employment.

MINIMUM CLASS QUALIFICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT:

Completion of undergraduate core program in forensic science, biology or chemistry with coursework to include forensic science, analytical chemistry & law enforcement; 1 yr. pertinent laboratory experience commensurate with job duties to be performed as outlined per approved position description on file; valid driver's license.

-Or equivalent of Minimum Class Qualifications for Employment noted above.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT REQUIRED TO REMAIN IN THE CLASSIFICATION AFTER EMPLOYMENT:

For positions in Ohio State Highway Patrol – Toxicology section only, must obtain Ohio Department of Health licensure & certification per OAC 3701-53-07 within twelve (12) months of employment, when required. Failure to obtain &/or maintain licensure & certification, when required is cause for removal.

UNUSUAL WORKING CONDITIONS:

Exposed to hazardous chemicals; may be exposed to human body parts; may be exposed to explosives; may be exposed to bio-hazardous materials (e.g., blood, urine); requires travel; may be on-call 24 hours/day, 7 days a week.