

DELAWARE



State legislatures consider and enact laws that address the administration and use of forensic science by state justice systems. Issues addressed in these measures include the delegation of oversight responsibilities for forensic services, accreditation standards for forensic laboratories, access to post-conviction DNA testing, the collection and analysis of DNA samples from arrested and convicted individuals and procedures for eyewitness identification. Following is information on this state's legislative activity on forensic science issues. More information on forensic science policy from all 50 states and the District of Columbia is available on the NCSL [forensic science page](#).



Administration of State Forensic Services **Title 29 §§ 4708, 4713**

The state administers its forensic services through the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner Forensic Sciences Laboratory, which operates independently of any law enforcement or prosecutorial agency.

Convicted Offender DNA Analysis **Title 29 § 4713**

People convicted of any felony or sex crime misdemeanor must submit a DNA sample to state officials. The state also collects DNA for those convicted of offenses related to children and vulnerable adults.

Post Conviction DNA Analysis **Title 11 § 4504**

The state allows an individual convicted of a crime to apply for post-conviction DNA testing. Their application must assert that the testing will be beneficial. Applications must be filed within three years of final judgment.
