

## MAINE



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 25 §§ 1571 through 1578**

The state administers its forensic services through the Maine State Police Crime Laboratory.

### **State Oversight of Forensic Services ..... §§ 3360-N, O**

The state's Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Advisory Board is responsible for oversight of sexual assault forensic examinations. The primary purpose of the board is to advise and assist in promoting and supporting statewide sexual assault forensic examiner programs. The board is required to meet no more than once a month.

### **Convicted Offender DNA Analysis.....Title 25 § 1574**

People convicted of any felony or sex crime misdemeanor must submit a DNA sample to state officials. Sample collection applies to juveniles convicted of enumerated offenses, including murder, felony murder, and aggravated assault.

### **Post Conviction DNA Analysis.....Title 15 §§ 2136 through 2138**

The state allows an individual convicted of a crime with a minimum one year sentence to apply for post-conviction DNA testing. Their application must show that the test will result in evidence material to the conviction. Applications must be filed within two years of conviction.

### **Sexual Assault Evidence and Backlogs..... §§ 3360-N, O**

State standards require training for sexual assault examiners.