

NEW JERSEY



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 § 53:1-20.24

The state administers its forensic services through the New Jersey Division of State Police.

Convicted Offender DNA Analysis §§ 53:1-20.20, 2C:1-4

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 misdemeanors that are punishable by more than six months in prison, excluding disorderly person offenses. Sample collection applies to juveniles.

Arrestee DNA Analysis §§ 53:1-20.20, 20.25

People arrested for enumerated offenses, including murder, manslaughter, sexual offenses, etc., must submit a DNA sample to state officials. The sample is collected prior to release from custody and is expunged upon request. Sample collection applies to juveniles.

Post Conviction DNA Analysis § 2A:84A-32a

The state allows any person convicted of a crime and currently imprisoned to apply for post-conviction DNA testing. Their application must show that the test will provide evidence material to the conviction.

Eyewitness Identification Procedures Administrative Action

The state's Attorney General has issued [guidelines](#) for photo and live lineup procedures.
