



March 1, 2021

Greetings from the American Board of Criminalistics,

In our quest for ISO 17024 Accreditation, we are convening two groups of Subject Matter Experts (SME) to determine the cut scores on our new examinations – Biological Evidence Screening (BIO) and Forensic DNA (DNA). The cut score of an exam is the lowest score a test taker can get and still pass the examination. Our exams were written to assess the competency of a person with at least one year of active casework experience in biological evidence screening or forensic DNA analysis.

To help us determine the cut score, we are looking for experts who are involved in training new analysts and determining whether a trainee is competent in the areas of biological evidence screening and/or forensic DNA analysis – e. g., hands-on part of training, evaluation of trainees for competence, etc. You do not need to be a supervisor or manager to participate. As a member of the panel, you will be asked to define an analyst who is considered minimally competent and your experience as a trainer will be critical. If chosen, you will work on the panel with the guidance of a facilitator via Zoom. A person acting as a Security Liaison (SL) will be with you in-person to provide the materials you need and manage the security of the testing materials. You may be asked to travel a short distance to your SL's location. Any travel expenses incurred will be paid by ABC. We will conduct two cut score sessions, one each for Biological Evidence Screening and Forensic DNA. There will be no crossover between the two panels and if selected you will be asked to participate in only one of the panels.

Panelists who are ABC-certified will receive 3 point towards recertification; however, you do not need to be a current ABC certificant to participate. The panel discussion is anticipated to take approximately 8 hours, and there will be reading assigned in advance. Please take a moment to fill out the survey found via this link:

[Prospective Subject Matter Expert Survey](#)

We look forward to working with you.

Regards,

Danielle Hankinson
President

Audra Curry Yovanovich
Chair, Examination Committee