



**Contribute to the
Future of Yakima
Valley:**

**A Laboratory
Technician will play a
key role for timely
entry of ballistics data
in NIBIN/IBIS
providing rapid
investigative leads on
gun crime violence.**

QUALIFICATIONS:

**A Bachelor's Degree in,
biology, chemistry, lab
technology, micro or
molecular biology, or
other related field**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY WITH
YAKIMA VALLEY CONFERENCE OF
GOVERNMENTS:**

LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

**To learn more about this position, go to
www.yvcog.org, click on Employment.**

**Yakima Valley Conference of
Governments**

311 N 4th Street, Suite 204

Yakima WA 98901

<http://www.yvcog.org>

ABOUT THE YAKIMA VALLEY CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENTS:

Established over 50 years ago under the interlocal agreement act, the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments (“YVCOG”) was then and is today, a local government formed to provide services and administer programs that cross jurisdictional boundaries within the Yakima Valley. Elected officials are committed to working together on land use, transportation, public safety, homelessness, environment, and other common issues that impact the quality of life for the communities of the Yakima region. Yakima Valley COG serves as an intermediary between the communities it represents and the state and federal government entities that are responsible for ensuring decisions made at the local level are aligned with state and federal laws, and that government resources are managed. The



overall mission of Yakima Valley Conference of Government membership is to collaborate to improve the valleys’ livability and secure its future.

Located in the center of the state, Yakima County is the second largest county in Washington. The region is a rich and productive agricultural valley which is surrounded by lush rivers and mountain ranges. Well known for its apples and its production of fruit and vegetables, in recent years it has received national recognition for its many vineyards and breweries. Home to approximately 252,000 people, 49.9% of whom are Hispanic and Latino, the region is culturally rich and diverse. The Yakama Indian Reservation, which is home to 15% of the region’s population, is one of the largest Native American tribes in the nation.

ABOUT THE FORENSICS FIREARM AND TOOL MARK EXAMINER POSITION

The Yakima Valley COG is a small group of highly professional and dedicated staff committed to making a difference in the Yakima Valley Region.

The Yakima Local Crime Lab (LCL), is looking for a highly motivated, Laboratory Technician who will strive to be a nationwide leader of the National Integrated Ballistics Network (NIBIN) program and support participating local law enforcement agencies.

This position provides integral support to the local law enforcement agencies by ensuring accurate, timely entry of ballistics data into NIBIN/IBIS. This data provides rapid investigational leads on gun crime violence to our customers (prosecutors, local law enforcement agencies (LEA), etc.). This position also participates (as a partner with Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and explosives) in the training of Washington state LEA personnel to enter ballistics data to support complete and timely investigation of shooting incidents.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Laboratory Technician will perform the assigned job duties under limited supervision as follows:

- Maintains proficiency of NIBIN system by Ultra Forensic Technology Inc (UFTI).
- Enters quality images of test fired and evidence cartridge cases into NIBIN under protocols and guidelines established by FTI and peers.
- Properly organizes, enters and reports NIBIN entries.
- Reports scientific findings in the form of a written forensic laboratory report based on the interpretation of observations and correlation test results.
- Assists user agencies with their participation in the NIBIN program including test firing of firearms, creating/monitoring workflow processes, and the training of operators and administrative staff.
- Prepares clear and concise written reports based on test results, observations, knowledge.
- Effectively convey ideas and information in writing, using language that is appropriate to both the complexity of the topic and the knowledge and understanding of the reader.
- Works to establish consistency in the functional area on the workflow and reporting of NIBIN cases.
- Documents and protects evidence in accordance with current laboratory procedures, ensuring that the chain of custody is maintained.
- Follows the mandated criteria established by the national accreditation board for forensics.
- Performs firearm safety checks.
- Prepares to testify in court related to NIBIN cases.
- Assists law enforcement user agencies to coordinate flow of IBIS evidence.
- Ensures the NIBIN program maintains guidelines established by the MROS (Minimal Required Operating Standards) established by BATF Qualifications
- This list of job responsibilities is not all inclusive.

Education and Experience:

- **Education** –
 - Bachelor's degree or higher in biology, chemistry, lab technology, micro or molecular biology.
- **Security** –
 - Provide evidence of U.S. citizenship, be determined suitable for the position based on the results of a background investigation, polygraph examination, and a psychological examination

- Must be able to obtain a valid Washington State driver's license within 30 days of employment and possess valid auto insurance
- Able to travel throughout the Yakima Valley, and state on a regular basis, at times during incumbent weather conditions.
- **Experience –**
 - Understand and practice the principles of laboratory safety.
 - Demonstrate basic computer skills necessary for word processing, data entry, data management/analysis and imaging.
 - Comfortable around firearms and the handling of ballistic evidence and lead exposure, and biohazards.
- **Desired Qualifications:**
 - Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the theory and working knowledge of analytical instrumentation and techniques as they relate to firearm and tool analysis. This includes, but is not limited to, the following: stereoscopes and/or microscopes, weighing Balance, IBIS/NIBIN system, and other Measuring Equipment (Calipers, Tripper-pull apparatus, Chronograph).
 - Experience with basic computer systems, word processing, data management, and image processing and storage.
 - Knowledge of basic chemistry concepts to include: handling and storage of hazardous chemicals and preparation of chemical reagents.
 - Knowledge of analytical instrument software and data interpretation.
 - Knowledge of the science of controlled substance, trace evidence, crime scene, latent fingerprints, questioned documents, firearms and tool marks, and DNA.
 - Knowledge of proper evidence handling procedures.
 - Familiarity with ISO 17025 and Supplemental certification requirements.
 - Ability to work cooperatively in a team setting, and to effectively interact with other individuals both internal and external to the laboratory. Ability to act professionally and treat others with courtesy and respect. Ability to give and accept constructive criticism, and receive direction from supervisors, trainers, and management.

SALARY & BENEFITS:

- Salary for this position begins at \$ **71,721 – 78,844**
- Personal Leave based on longevity
- Sick Leave
- Longevity pay
- Fourteen (14) paid holidays
- Health benefits offered include medical, dental and vision for the employee and dependents as established by the Executive Director and Board on an annual basis
- Additional benefits include: long-term disability and \$ 50,000 life insurance
- Eligible to participate in Deferred Comp and in a Health Saving Account
- Participation in Washington State Department of Retirement Systems PERS is required
- Wellness Program
- Continuing Education
- This is an onsite position, currently located in Zillah WA

POSITION CLOSES: Open Until Filled

HOW TO APPLY: Complete the application located at <https://www.yvcog.org/about-us/employment-opportunities/> and email it with your resume, and cover letter to yvcog.hr@yvcog.org

Polygraph & Background Investigation:

For candidates that make it through the potential employment offer process, a background investigation, including a polygraph exam, will be required due to the nature and security requirements of the job.

Applicants will be required to sign releases of information and shall not have access to any investigative materials or files. The Polygraph Examination (PE) and Background Investigation are part of the pre-employment selection process and are not a commitment to employment.

This position has strict guidelines relating, but not limited to personal and employment characteristics, arrests, convictions, and illegal drug usage, etc. During the PE candidates are required to sign an assessment sheet and participate in an oral interview process to verify the candidates' responses to the Personal Background Evaluation, the Personal History and Background Questionnaire, and a Pre-Employment Interview.

UNTRUTHFUL OR MISLEADING ANSWERS OR OMISSIONS WILL BE TREATED AS A FALSIFICATION WHICH WILL BE CAUSE FOR REJECTION OF POTENTIAL EMPLOYMENT.

YVCOG fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For more information, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, see <http://www.yvcog.org/title6.pdf> or call (509) 574-1550.

**The Yakima Valley Conference of Governments is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
This is a drug and tobacco free workplace.**