

The goal of the Laboratories and Educators Alliance Program (LEAP) is to facilitate collaborative research between academia and forensic science laboratories. This joint effort between the American Society of Crime Lab Directors (ASCLD) and the Council of Forensic Science Educators (COFSE) identifies forensic science needs and provides a platform for laboratories, researchers, and students to seek projects aligning with their mutual research capabilities.

## Laboratories

Expands the research climate within the laboratory, leading to meaningful contributions to forensic science practices.

Provides educational opportunities, such as conference presentations and guest lectures.

Supports the laboratory through hosting student interns to assist in validation and evaluation projects.

Facilitates the connection between the laboratory and university programs, potentially assisting with future hiring actions and research needs.

## **Academia**

Promotes impactful research by providing a list of forensic science needs and research interests that can lead to future collaborations.

Enriches the knowledge base of university faculty with limited or no prior forensic laboratory experience.

Enhances academic achievements through the valuable internship experiences provided to students.

Streamlines vital connections and collaborations between universities and forensic science laboratories as required for accreditation.

## Value to participating organizations

For a list of the ASCLD Research Priorities, please visit: <a href="http://www.ascld.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/ASCLD-FRC-Research-Topics-with-Board-Priorities.pdf">http://www.ascld.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/ASCLD-FRC-Research-Topics-with-Board-Priorities.pdf</a>

For more LEAP information or for additional information about the ASCLD Forensic Research Committee, please visit: <a href="http://www.ascld.org/forensic-research-committee/">http://www.ascld.org/forensic-research-committee/</a>



