

# Continuing Education in Forensic Science



Web-based education for forensic science professionals has never been more valuable. Rising expectations for quality and timely forensic science services have not come with rising budgets. Costs associated with travel and days away from work are impediments to the professional development of forensic science employees and ancillary professionals in need of affordable but effective forensic science training. RTI International has a solution that works.

## Overview

RTI's Center for Forensic Sciences (CFS) works with various government entities, universities, and subject matter experts to develop and deliver web-based continuing education for the criminal justice and forensic science communities. Training is partially funded by cooperative agreements with the National Institute of Justice and the Office for Victims of Crime.

Our courses are designed with the practicing forensic scientist in mind; however, ancillary professionals in law enforcement, legal, policy-making, and medical health communities can also benefit from RTI's web-based courses. In many instances, our courses are offered at no charge to the attendee, which is made possible by federal funding. Examples follow of selected key topic areas for RTI's forensic science courses:

### Criminal Investigation and Forensic Evidence

- Medicolegal death investigation
- Digital photography
- Sexual assault investigations
- CODIS for missing persons
- Forensic anthropology
- SART/SANE protocols and practices

"I was able to complete this course during what little spare time I had. I didn't have to wait for attendance availability, and it was at no cost to me or my agency, where training funds are non-existent."

—Attendee feedback

[www.ForensicEd.org](http://www.ForensicEd.org)

### Laboratory Practices and Professionalism

- Ethics and professional responsibility
- Measurement uncertainty
- Instrumental methods
- Expert witnessing
- Workplace drug testing
- Breath alcohol analyst recertification

### Forensic Administration and Policy

- Executive leadership
- Human resource management
- National Institute of Justice research and development
- ISO 17025



## Specialized Course Content

Customized for special programs and clients, some web-based training modules include our state-specific breath testing instrumentation analyst/operator recertification courses and live demonstrations to assist users with forensic databases such as the forensics cheminformatics database ([www.ForensicDB.org](http://www.ForensicDB.org)) and the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System ([www.namus.gov](http://www.namus.gov)). Our staff can design new courses to meet the needs of a variety of clients and can include pre-test and post-test knowledge assessments to evaluate students' understanding of the material. Online meetings and webinars can also be developed to discuss new technologies and best practices.

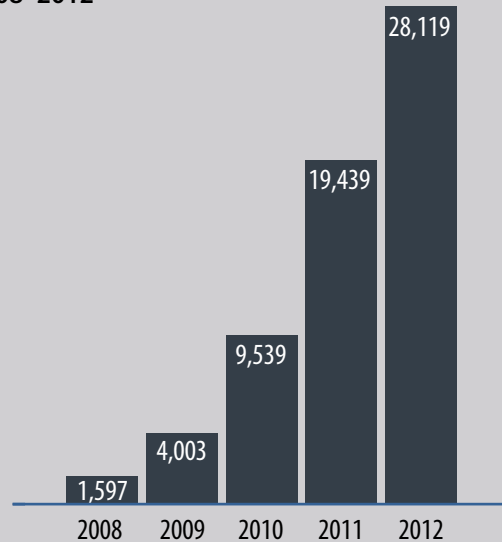
## Staying Current

The growth and popularity of [www.ForensicEd.org](http://www.ForensicEd.org) only furthers our resolve to keep our content fresh and relevant. We accomplish this objective by focusing on the following:

- Designing high-quality, web-based, interactive continuing education for professionals in the field
- Continuously evaluating the needs of forensic science and criminal justice professionals
- Providing a cost-efficient means for institutions and individuals to meet their continuing education needs.

If you are interested in our courses or in participating as a subject matter expert (faculty), please contact us. Also, if you have ideas for additional courses or your facility has specific needs for professional training, we can discuss how to help you.

## Continuing Education Subscribers 2008–2012



## A Solution that Works

"E-learning allows learning to become a continuous process of inquiry and improvement that keeps pace with the speed of change in business and society... Corporate and academic agendas now recognize that e-learning has an influential role to play in how people learn, acquire knowledge, and develop competencies to improve performance."

—A. Gunasegaram, R. McNeil, and D. Saul.

E-learning: research and applications. *Industrial and Commercial Training*, 2002: 34, 2, 44–53.

## More Information

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RTI International is one of the world's leading research institutes, dedicated to improving the human condition by turning knowledge into practice. Our staff of more than 3,700 provides research and technical services to governments and businesses in more than 75 countries in the areas of health and pharmaceuticals, education and training, surveys and statistics, advanced technology, international development, economic and social policy, energy and the environment, and laboratory testing and chemical analysis. For more information, visit [www.rti.org](http://www.rti.org).

RTI International is a trade name of Research Triangle Institute.

