Audience: This one-week summer program is for both residential students currently in grades 7—9 and at least 12 years old. Twenty-three (23) students participated in the 2012 CSI program; 19 female/4 male. All students are required to have a GPA of 3.5 or above. They had to provide strong standardized test scores (SAT, ACT, Tier I MEAP in Science) as well as a positive teacher recommendation.

Funding: The residential program tuition of $1,250 covers all program costs. Scholarships are available to students who qualify for free or reduced lunch. The scholarships pay up to 50% of the program tuition. The funds are provided through the interest earned from the Dorothy Lawshe Endowment.

Objectives: Students participating in this program receive opportunities to explore various aspects of forensic science through lab and/or hands on experiences during 40 hours of contact time. Through this exposure to forensic science, it is hoped that students will continue to pursue their interests or develop an interest resulting in, ultimately, a career choice.

The expectation for each student is to be able to:
* describe the value of a wild variety of types of evidence,
* collect evidence properly through an understanding of how crime scene documentation, photography and chain of custody work,
* understand the various opportunities available for a career in forensic science.

Description: The curriculum for this program is geared to academically-able students with strong backgrounds in science, who are interested in working with professionals in the field of forensic science. Three years of forensic science curriculum have been developed as so many students participate in the program for several years. Each day’s curriculum focuses on one area of forensics. Students participate in lectures, lab experiences, and mock crime scenes. While collecting evidence from crime scenes, they analyze their findings in the laboratory and ultimately present their conclusions at the end of the program.

Instruction is provided by two (2) MSU full time Professors, one (1) MSU Graduate Instructor, five (5) Graduate Teaching Assistants and six (6) forensic science experts. Evenings activities include a college night presentation from the Honors College and the MSU Forensic Club, use of campus facilities, team building activities and completing daily homework assignments implementing a MSU computer lab.

Outcomes: Each student participated in 17 areas of forensic science followed with hands-on lab activities. The students completed lab analysis on a crime scene and then presented their findings and conclusions on the final day of the program, using their documented evidence.