

1. Can we use expired DNA collection kits?  
Yes, you can use kits past the expiration date.
2. Can the arrestee collect their own DNA sample?  
No. DNA collection must be performed by a trained individual and not the arrestee themselves.
3. Do I need iLab?  
Yes, iLab is an important tool for offender DNA collection because it can help answer the two critical questions needed before a collection determination is made: 1. Does this person have a qualifying offense for inclusion in the State DNA Database? 2. Does this individual already have a sample on file in the State DNA Database? SLED's Forensic Technology Department does require that each iLab user have his/her own account, which must set up using their government email address.
4. If an investigator needs to collect a DNA sample from someone in the jail, can they use the DNA Database collection kits?  
No. DNA Database collection kits can only be used for DNA samples that are to be entered into the State DNA Database pursuant S.C. Code 23-3-620. If a DNA sample is needed pursuant a court order or consent, a suspect collection kit must be used, which the investigator can receive from SLED's Evidence Control Department.
5. What do I do if someone refuses to give DNA?  
Follow your agency protocol.
6. What do I do if an individual's thumb is bandaged or has been amputated, and I cannot get a thumbprint from them?  
Make a note on the collection card in the slot where the thumbprint would be and state why you could not obtain a thumbprint. An example would be if their thumb is bandaged, a note saying "Bandaged" would be sufficient.
7. Are we allowed to print the ten print card from the LIVESCAN instrument and submit that with the DNA sample rather than applying their thumbprints on directly to the card?  
No. We need the thumbprints to be rolled onto the collection card to verify that the DNA collected belongs to the individual who is written on the card.
8. Are we allowed to cut out the thumbprints from the ten-print card and tape that onto the collection card?  
No. For thumbprints to be accepted they must be rolled onto the collection card.
9. Do I have to let the swabs dry before packaging them into the kit?  
No, the swabs do not have to dry before packaging them.

10. What do I do if the kit doesn't have everything in it?  
Missing items can be obtained from another kit; however, keep unused components of the kit in case that scenario arises again.
11. Do we need to collect both the swab and easi-collect samples?  
Yes, having both DNA samples increases the chance of obtaining a good quality DNA profile for inclusion in the State DNA Database and ensures enough of the DNA sample remains if it ever needs to be analyzed again.
12. Do we need to list every qualifying offense in the CDR code field of the collection card?  
No, for the purposes of DNA collection only one qualifying offense needs to be listed in the CDR code field of the collection card.

**\*For any additional questions regarding DNA collection, please email**

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