



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I become a donor in Illinois?

You can join the new organ/tissue donor registry by visiting www.donatelifellinois.org; visiting any Illinois state driver's license facility; or by calling the Illinois Secretary of State Organ/Tissue Donor Program at 800/210-2106. Online registration takes just 30 seconds; you must have a state ID or driver's license number and be at least 18 years old.

What organs and tissue can be donated?

Organs that can be donated are the liver, heart, lungs, kidneys, pancreas and small intestine. Corneas, bone, saphenous veins, heart valves and skin are tissues that can be donated.

When I become a donor, how will my family be involved?

If you are medically eligible to donate at the time of your death, coordinators with Gift of Hope will come to the hospital to talk with your doctors and meet with your family. We will review your donor registration, explain the donation process, answer questions and provide additional support that your family may need. We will ask for current medical information about you, called a medical/social history, which helps us determine which organs and tissues may be transplanted.

During this time, we will also offer to provide your family with follow-up information after the donation, such as general information about the recipients you have helped. Your family can take advantage of our ongoing programs and services for families of donors for as long as they wish.

Will my family meet my recipients?

Most donor families are told the age, sex, occupation and other general characteristics of the recipient. If both the donor family and recipient agree, they may exchange names, correspond and even meet.

Are there any costs to my family for donation?

No. There is no cost to the donor's family or estate.

How can I learn more about organ & tissue donation?

Visit www.giftofhope.org to learn more about how your decision will help others, how Gift of Hope coordinates the organ and tissue donation process, and how we support families during and after a loved one's donation.

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888/307-DON8 (3668)
www.giftofhope.org