



## Where Texans Have the Power to Make LIFE Possible

By joining the Donate Life Texas donor registry, you can give hope to thousands of people awaiting the transplant they need to survive.

Registering to be an organ, eye and tissue donor legally records your decision to be a donor. Your gift of life can save as many as eight lives through organ donation, restore sight to others with cornea donations and touch countless others through tissue donation. It takes only moments, yet means a second chance of a lifetime.

**In Texas in 2016, registered Texas donors saved the lives of nearly 1,100 organ transplant patients, shared the gift of sight with more than 2,200 people and helped as many as 42,000 people relying on tissues for surgery, recovery and treatment.**



Every 10 minutes, someone new is added to the national transplant waiting list.



On average, 22 people die each day while waiting for an organ transplant.



More Texans are waiting for transplants than twenty-seven 747 model airplanes filled to capacity!

## Donate Life Texas, Donation & Transplantation FAQs

### What is the Donate Life Texas (DLT) Registry?

- DLT is a database of people who consent to donation after they pass away.
- Joining the registry provides **legal consent** to be become a donor. By law, this means that others (including family members) cannot overturn your decision.
- The registry ensures that your lifesaving decision to be a donor is known by the right people, at the right time to save lives.

### How do I register?

- Visit [www.DonateLifeTexas.org](http://www.DonateLifeTexas.org) to register in less than a minute!
- **OR**, complete and mail or fax a paper application
- **OR**, say "Yes" when asked if you would like to register as a donor when applying for or renewing your Texas driver license or ID card.
- **OR**, say "Yes" when applying for or renewing your Texas vehicle registration
- **OR**, use the **MedID tab of the Health App on your iPhone**

### **Will doctors or other healthcare workers still try to save me if they know I'm a donor?**

- **YES!** The number one priority for doctors and hospitals is to save lives.
- Organ, eye and tissue donation is only considered after brain death has been declared.

### **They don't want my organs and tissues...do they?**

- **ANYONE** can register, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or health status.
- If donation is important to you, register today and let medical professionals decide what can be used for transplanation, if and when the time comes.
- Kids can register, too! For minors, parental consent for donation is required after death.

### **Can I still have a funeral if I donate?**

- **YES!** Donor families routinely host funerals, including open casket viewings.

### **How do I change or update my registration?**

- The DLT website allows you to change, update or remove your registration
- You can also read Donate Life Stories, find volunteer opportunities, make a memorial gift in honor of a loved one and connect to social media.

### **Is donation against my religion?**

- Probably not. All major religions support donation.
- If you have concerns, your faith leader can often give you helpful insight.

### **Can I still donate my body to science?**

- **Yes.** Recovery agencies often work with whole body programs to recover organs and tissues for transplant and provide those that can't to a whole body program designated by the donor.

### **Don't rich, famous people get first dibs?**

- **No.** Every effort is made to see that organs for transplants go to the person who needs it most, who is the best match for it and who will benefit from it most.

### **Does it cost my family for me to be a donor?**

- **No.** From the moment death is declared, the organ recovery agency assumes all donation-related expenses. The family will still be responsible for the funeral expenses.

### **How is Donate Life Texas funded?**

- Financial donations support the day-to-day needs of managing the registry as well as providing public education about the need for and importance of donation.