

For Parents and Students:
Information About
Donating Blood



STUDENT NAME (PLEASE PRINT)
(FILL OUT ENTIRE FORM IN BLACK OR BLUE INK)

STUDENT DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY)

STUDENT ADDRESS

STUDENT PHONE NUMBER

Parent / Guardian Contact Number

Unit Number: (SCBC Use Only)

Parental Consent for Blood Donation

Dear Parent and/or Guardian:

Your child has expressed an interest in donating whole blood or using automated technology to donate double red cells, platelets, or plasma. Giving blood is safe, easy, and rewarding. The lives of local patients in our area depend on volunteer blood donors everyday to make the commitment to donate the gift of life. State law requires written consent by a parent or guardian for 16-year-olds to donate blood at any location. Also, some schools require written parental/guardian consent to donate blood at school regardless of his/her age. Students must also meet other blood donation requirements before donating. Please be assured that every blood donor is thoroughly evaluated prior to donation to ensure that they meet these requirements.

Process

- screening (medical and social history; blood pressure, pulse, temperature, and hemoglobin tests)
- cleansing of the arm and insertion of a sterile needle for one-time use
- collection of whole blood or double red cells, platelets, and plasma using automated procedures
- providing refreshments, rest, and post-donation care instructions to help ensure donor's well-being

Reactions

Donors rarely experience any serious complications. However, as in any medical procedure, there are certain risks involved. Potential side effects of both whole blood and automated blood collections include fainting, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, bruising or redness in the area of the venipuncture, and iron deficiency. More serious reactions may include seizures and, rarely, nerve injury in the area of the venipuncture. Only a small proportion of blood donors have adverse reactions. To lessen the likelihood of a reaction, the blood center evaluates eligibility for these donors based on weight and/or height to determine blood volume. Our staff is specially trained to respond to donor reactions. We also work to prevent them by having donors drink water just before they donate and showing them special muscle tensing exercises. During automated blood collections, some easily resolved common side effects occur due to the anticoagulant, including numbness and tingling sensations, muscle cramping, and chilliness. Other possible complications include fatigue and decreased exercise tolerance for 3-5 days; very rarely, allergic reaction, shortness of breath, chest pain, decreased blood pressure, hemolysis (destruction of red blood cells), or air embolism (air leaking into blood vessels and heart) can occur.

Parent / Legal Guardian: Please use black or blue ink to complete this section and sign & date.

I understand that my child will be notified by mail of positive test results and for follow-up testing if necessary. Additionally, if blood tests reveal evidence of reportable infectious disease, I understand that the blood center may inform the appropriate governmental agencies and anyone else required by law. I have read and understand the information provided on this form about blood donation. I give my consent for my child, who is 16-years-of age or older, to donate his/her blood or blood components to Shepard Community Blood Center.

All 16 year old donors must turn in a signed parental consent form when they donate at their High School and present a photo ID or a Shepard Blood Donor card. This consent is valid from the date signed up to (12) months. Consent can be withdrawn at any time by rescinding it in writing to Shepard Community Blood Center.

Parent / Legal Guardian Signature

Date

Parent / Legal Guardian (Please Print)

THANK YOU SO MUCH! If you have any questions or concerns about blood donation, or if you would like additional information on blood donations and the positive impact it has on patients in our local Georgia and South Carolina hospitals, please contact Shepard Community Blood Center at 706.737.4551 or visit our website at www.shepardblood.org.