

High School Blood Drive Program





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I. Introduction





DEVELOPING FUTURE LEADERS THROUGH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

A strong educational foundation offers young people opportunities to develop character, plan for their future, and shape the course of their communities. Building tomorrow's leaders and fostering smart, driven and successful students are dynamic, rewarding parts of your calling, and we sincerely thank you for your dedication.

As you know, young people care deeply about the world and their communities, and they are more aware that participation matters. Empowering this generation to use their voices and influence for good develops confident, action-oriented citizens and empathetic leaders.

It is crucial to educate young people on the importance of blood donation within their communities. Currently, blood donations are at historically low levels – the worst blood supply shortage in 30 years – and U.S. blood centers are challenged to meet the daily needs of transfusion patients. This is unsustainable and poses great health risks if young people aged 16-25 do not get involved and donate.

By supporting Carter BloodCare's mission to save lives by making transfusion possible, you show students ways to positively engage, stand up for others and become community advocates. This is essential for young leaders to enhance their social, emotional and organizational skills, and instills lifelong behaviors that ensure future generations have available blood resources.

Together, we must help our diverse, growing communities by engaging today's young adult donors. The need has never been greater.

Thank you for your support of this lifesaving mission.



Carter BloodCare is one of the largest, not-for-profit community blood centers in Texas. We serve over 50 counties and more than 200 healthcare facilities in North, Central and East Texas. Local high schools contribute about 25% of the blood donated locally and are an invaluable part of the blood supply for patients in Texas.

What can we offer you?

- A **fun, educational** high school blood drive program.
- **Experienced**, professional phlebotomists to take care of the students.
- An efficient, organized blood drive. Per collection team, we can see **two students every 20 minutes (about six per hour)** and we can handle over 500 donors in one day.
- The **Honor Cord Program**, which recognizes graduating seniors.
- Our **Great Leaders Program** to develop student leaders for today and tomorrow.
- Our **Great Grants Program** that rewards schools for outstanding partnership each year.
- **Vein to Vein: The Science of Blood Donation** - a comprehensive high school biology education program designed to meet Next Generation Science Standards.
- **T-shirts** and other fun donor appreciation gifts.
- **Annual banquets** where schools are honored for their awesome contributions to the community based on number of donations and percentage of participation.
- **The chance to help patients who need blood, right here in Texas.**



Dear Parent or Guardian,

Carter BloodCare will hold an upcoming blood drive at your child's school. We are sending this letter to inform you and to provide general information regarding the blood drive.

As you may know, high school blood drives help to develop student leaders and give many their first taste of civic involvement. Additionally, students often want to donate blood because it gives them an unmatched sense of accomplishment – they've helped save a life! Some of today's most dedicated blood donors began giving blood in high school.

Since blood transfusion is an essential part of medical care, we are excited about partnering with our community to ensure blood availability for patients in more than 200 hospitals and healthcare facilities across North, Central and East Texas.

Here are a few reminders for your child who wants to give blood:

- Donors must be at least 17 years old (or 16 years old with parental consent) to donate.
- Weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good general health.
- Must bring a photo ID.
- Students with a tattoo or body piercing can donate blood if the procedure was performed in a licensed Texas facility. No wait time is required.
- Please make sure your child eats a good meal and drinks plenty of fluids prior to and after their donation. Carter BloodCare offers fluids and snacks before and after the donation.
- Avoid strenuous activity for at least 24 hours after donating.

Carter BloodCare is committed to helping donors have the best possible experience while participating in this valuable community service. After the donation, if you or your child have any medical questions, please contact our Donor Advocate Department:

Donor Advocate on-call: **817-343-2569**

Donor Advocate e-mail: **DonorAdvocate@CarterBloodCare.org**

Thank you for reviewing this information and for supporting your child's desire to be part of a life-changing experience for donors and the patients who benefit from their donations.

Sincerely,

Your Carter BloodCare Team

II: BLOOD DONATION, TESTING & STUDENT BLOOD DRIVES





BLOOD DONATION, TESTING & STUDENT BLOOD DRIVES

What happens when I donate blood? Blood donation takes about 45 minutes and involves these steps:

- 1. Schedule an appointment** – Sign up with your hosting group by providing your name, email address and phone number.
- 2. Registration** – You give your name, address and some form of photo identification, such as a driver's license. *****ALL STUDENTS MUST HAVE A PICTURE ID TO BE ABLE TO DONATE*****
- 3. Screening** – A phlebotomist takes your medical history and performs a wellness check to ensure you are healthy enough to donate blood and your blood will be safe to give to patients. It is important you are honest and complete in your answers.
- 4. Donation** – A phlebotomist draws your blood using a sterile process. The actual blood draw usually takes less than 10 minutes and is mostly painless.
- 5. Refreshments** – It is important to have food and fluids after giving blood. We provide juices and snacks and ask that you relax for 15 minutes before leaving the area. Be sure to follow the post-donation instructions.



BLOOD DONATION, TESTING & STUDENT BLOOD DRIVES

Do I need parental or guardian permission to donate blood?

Anyone 17 years of age or older may donate blood. No parental permission is required, but notification is advised. If you are 16 years of age, you must have a Carter BloodCare parental consent form signed by your parent or guardian each time you donate.

Is my blood tested? Am I notified of test results?

Yes to both questions. If there is a positive test result, you will be notified by mail by Carter BloodCare's Donor Notification Department within 2-3 weeks after donation. Approximately five days after your donation, you may visit the website listed on your post-donation paperwork to access your blood type and mini-physical test results. If you have any other questions, your Account Consultant can help you get in touch with the appropriate department.

Are my test results confidential?

Yes. No one except the donor receives notice of test results.

16-YEAR OLD DONOR PERMISSION FORM

Donation Identification Number

DONOR NAME: _____

Your 16-year old son/daughter/ward has expressed interest in donating blood (whole blood or double red blood cells/plasma/platelets using automated technology). We hope that you support and encourage your son/daughter/ward's decision to donate blood.

Blood donation is a routine procedure using single use, sterile supplies. Reactions like fainting and bruising can occur but are not common. Blood testing is mandated for a variety of infections including HIV (the AIDS virus), viral hepatitis and others. Positive test results will cause your son/daughter/ward's name to be entered into a confidential list of excluded donors and you will be notified of positive test results with medical significance. Under federal and state laws the Blood Center may have to report certain test results to the health department or another government entity. We do ask donors to read educational materials about the donation process and suitability of individuals to donate and to answer a number of questions that affect whether they are suitable candidates for donation of blood or blood components on a given date. Truthful answers are critical. All information and test results are confidential unless reporting is mandated by law. Remaining blood samples could be tested for markers of cardiovascular risk and/or diabetes and results of such tests could be used for population health research, such research will be conducted in a manner that protects your son/daughter/ward's identity.

Iron is important for making red blood cells and transporting oxygen. Loss of red blood cells through blood donation may deplete the body of iron over time. Frequent blood donors may become low on iron before becoming anemic. Young women are particularly at risk of low iron due to menstrual blood loss. Diet alone may not be adequately replacing your son/daughter/ward's iron especially if they have gastrointestinal issues or do not eat red meat. If you think they may be at risk of low iron, you may want to consult their physician or consider an iron supplement. Do not take iron without consulting your doctor if your son/daughter/ward has a history of too much iron in the body.

Apheresis Consent

Have they ever had a splenectomy? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Donation Type/Intervals

- I hereby volunteer and consent for my son/daughter/ward to serve as a donor for whole blood, platelets (single/double/triple), red blood cells (single/double), plasma or other cells prepared from my blood.
- I understand that the frequency and number of donations varies by procedure.
 - Whole blood donors may donate 6 times per 12 month period, but no more than 1 time in any 56 day period
 - Single/double/triple platelet donors may donate 24 times per 12 month period, but no more than 1 time in any 7 day period.
 - Single red blood cell donors may donate every 56 days, but no more than 6 times in 12 month period.
 - Double red blood cell donors may donate every 112 days, but no more than 3 times in a 12 month period.
 - Plasma donors may donate every 28 days, but no more than 11 times in 12 month period.

Apheresis Procedure

- I understand the apheresis procedure involves removing their blood, processing it in a sterile, disposable tubing set, collecting the needed components and returning the remaining blood to son/daughter/ward.
- I understand that the procedure lasts up to approximately 2 hours.

Potential Risks/Hazards

- I understand that they will receive an anticoagulant which prevents their blood from clotting during the course of the procedure. The anticoagulant temporarily reduces the calcium in their blood. This may cause potential problems for apheresis that include muscle cramping, numbness, chilliness, hypocalcemia, unusual/unpleasant taste or smell, digit/facial paresthesia (tingling sensations around the mouth or fingers), twitching, spasms, tremors, hypovolemia (decreased blood volume), feelings of anxiety and chest vibrations or a "heavy feeling" of pressure on the chest and in rare instances cardiac arrest due to lack of calcium ions.
- I consent to calcium replacement being given to my son/daughter/ward in the event that Carter BloodCare deems it necessary.
- I understand that blood donation may have adverse consequences, including but not limited to, pallor, nausea, vomiting, light-headedness, dizziness, fainting, feeling of warmth, fever, headache, hypotension, fluctuations in blood pressure, excessive tiredness, bruising (hematoma), arterial puncture, bleeding after leaving the donation site, nerve injury, infection, blood clot formation (thrombosis), vein inflammation (phlebitis), air embolism, seizure, convulsion, abdominal cramps, temporary loss of bladder/bowel control, urticaria/allergic reaction, flushing, skin redness, itching, hives, difficulty in breathing, chest pain or bronchospasm, which may be life threatening. I understand that there are long term risks of blood donation such as iron depletion.

16-YEAR OLD DONOR PERMISSION FORM

- I understand that after plateletpheresis, their platelet count will be temporarily decreased. Lost platelets will be replaced by their body and their platelet count should be back to a normal level within 1 to 2 days after donation. I understand that their lymphocytes (white cells) may be reduced. The long term effect of the possible reduction of lymphocytes (white cells) is not known. Body stores of iron may be depleted over time in regular apheresis donors who do not have adequate replacement of iron. In addition there may be unknown and unforeseen risks involved in this donation.
- I understand that there is a potential risk of blood loss, hemolysis (cell damage), air embolism or blood clotting with improper device operation. I understand that if it is not possible to return their red blood cells to them or if significant changes in their protein or hemoglobin/hematocrit level occur, they may be ineligible to donate for a period of time or may be indefinitely deferred as an apheresis donor.
- I am willing to accept the potential risks to my son/daughter/ward which are set out above.

Informed Consent

- I have read and understand the informed consent. I understand the whole blood and apheresis procedure, potential risks/hazards and donation intervals. I have had an opportunity to ask any questions and if I had questions they have been answered.
- If you have any questions regarding your son/daughter/ward's decision, please contact the Donor Advocate Department at 817-412-5370 or toll free at 1-877-351-3600.

Form is to be completed using ink.

Permission

I give permission for voluntary donation of blood and/or blood components by my 16 year old son/daughter/ward
_____ birth date _____ to Carter BloodCare.

(Son/Daughter/Ward's First Name) (MM/DD/YYYY)

In certain rare instances medical care may be required on an urgent or emergent basis following a donation and I grant permission to have such medically indicated care provided for son/daughter/ward, though I ask that I be contacted as soon as feasible.

Certification

I certify that (i) I have read this Permission form; (ii) son/daughter/ward is 16 years of age; (iii) I have the legal authority to give permission to son/daughter/ward donating blood or blood components; (iv) I know of no reason son/daughter/ward should not be donating blood or blood components at this time and; (v) I have asked any questions I have regarding the donation of blood or blood components by son/daughter/ward and all questions have been answered to my satisfaction.

Notification

I understand there are regulations requiring notification in the event a donor tests positive for certain blood borne infections ("Required Notifications"). Consistent with these such regulations, I request that all positive test results arising from son/daughter/ward's donation (including any and all Required Notifications) be made to me and not son/daughter/ward.

(Signature of Parent/Guardian)

(Date)

(Printed Name of Parent/Guardian)

(Address, City, State and Zip Code)

(Contact Number, Including Area Code)

III: ORGANIZING YOUR HIGH SCHOOL BLOOD DRIVE





CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING HIGH SCHOOL BLOOD DRIVES

Your Account Consultant will meet with your student group 3-4 weeks prior to the blood drive.

1. Ideas for advertising and promoting the blood drive:

- ☐ a. School newspaper announcements and articles at least three weeks prior to blood drive date and up to the day of the drive. Follow-up story (with pictures) after the drive. Also, local news should be invited to take pictures the day of the drive.
- ☐ b. P.A. announcements at least two weeks leading up to and throughout the day of the drive.
- ☐ c. Announcement at all assemblies, pep rallies, etc.
- ☐ d. Memo or email to all staff and faculty at least 2 weeks before the blood drive.
- ☐ e. Put up posters at least two weeks before the drive.
- ☐ f. Student assembly of 16 year olds and older, 2-5 days before the drive, if permissible. A Carter BloodCare Consultant can give a presentation and show a video if requested.

2. Ideas for recruiting blood donors:

- ☐ a. Sign-up tables. Periodically, two weeks prior and up to the day of the drive, the sign-up tables should be strategically placed in high-traffic areas (i.e., outside the cafeteria at lunch period) to sign up potential donors.
- ☐ b. Challenge different student groups within your school to a competition.
- ☐ c. Challenge other schools in your area to a competition.
- ☐ d. Seek endorsements and participation from teachers, coaches, and other school employees.
- ☐ e. Make arrangements with school officials for approval to utilize hall passes and a runner system to get scheduled donors by name/class.



CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING HIGH SCHOOL BLOOD DRIVES

3. What is needed for the blood drive:

- ☐ a. Largest possible room, (i.e., gymnasium, cafeteria, stage of auditorium or large classroom) with relatively easy loading/unloading access.
- ☐ b. Good lighting.
- ☐ c. Electrical outlets (at least four).
- ☐ d. Air conditioning or heating should be set the night before between 68° - 74° so the room will be cool by the time the staff arrives.
- ☐ e. Room cleared of unneeded furniture the day before the drive.
- ☐ f. Furniture:
 - 1) Four tables per collection team (banquet tables, cafeteria tables, card tables).
 - 2) 10 chairs per collection team (folding chairs preferable).
 - 3) Gym mats for canteen area.
- ☐ g. Refreshments:
 - 1) Carter BloodCare will provide snacks and water before, and refreshments after the donation process.
 - 2) Any additional refreshments may be furnished by the sponsor group.
 - Home-making class or cafeteria could provide cookies.
 - Area merchants will often donate baked goods.
- ☐ h. Identification for every student:
 - 1) If a student does not have a photo ID, please have the most recent yearbook for our staff to use to verify identity. Students must provide an identification number. (i.e., DL #, Student ID, Social Security).
- ☐ i. School nurse as needed:
 - 1) Please communicate with your school nurse to let them know when your blood drive is; they are welcome to be involved. Our staff are all medically trained to handle donor reactions and we maintain medical doctors on call that our staff will contact if needed.



CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING HIGH SCHOOL BLOOD DRIVES

4. Volunteer workers - day of the drive

- ☐ a. **Directional Coordinator(s):** To meet Carter BloodCare's staff to direct and assist in setting down/taping tarps while Carter BloodCare staff unloads and sets up equipment.
- ☐ b. **Registration Coordinator(s):** To greet and help students begin the registration process by checking their picture IDs and giving them proper paperwork.
- ☐ c. **Recovery Coordinator(s):** To serve donors refreshments and observe canteen area to ensure donors' well-being is monitored closely.
- ☐ d. **Donor Schedule Coordinator(s):** Runners to get donors out of class as scheduled.
- ☐ e. **Donor Escort(s):** To escort donors from each station of the process while maintaining confidentiality of their donor record. (Must be certified Carter BloodCare volunteer).

Volunteers will be provided with a lanyard to designate them as a volunteer worker. Typically, a drive will need 4-6 volunteers per Carter BloodCare team. We will work with you in the planning meeting to designate how many volunteers to have at each time. Many schools also opt to have volunteers work shifts to avoid missing core curriculum classes. Please collect and re-use volunteer lanyards between shifts and drives.

