



Medical Research Saves Lives

How Does the Body Donation Process Work?

Lasting Legacy Through Medical Research

The Science Care whole body donor program links those that wish to leave a lasting legacy through medical research with the researchers and educators that need human tissue to do their important work. Each donor not only gives of him or herself but gives hope to future generations. Hope for new disease treatment options, better patient outcomes and advanced surgical procedures to improve the future for all of us.

Donating Your Body To Science

We've outlined the basic procedure for donating your body to Science Care and made the process as straightforward as possible, not only to be efficient, but to keep it very simple for your loved ones or caregivers at a difficult time.

- It starts with a short medical screening by phone (800.417.3747) at the time of passing to determine if there is a match with current research criteria.
- If under hospice care or terminally ill, this medical screening can be done ahead of time through our [HOPE Program: A Guarantee for Hospice Patients](#).
- We then coordinate and/or confirm proper, legal authorization is on file.
- Upon acceptance, Science Care will then coordinate donor transportation to a Science Care facility.

Upon acceptance, Science Care covers all costs of donation, including cremation, transportation, filing of the death certificate and the return of cremated remains. If you also want to be an organ transplant donor, [click here](#) for details.

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Who Can Donate

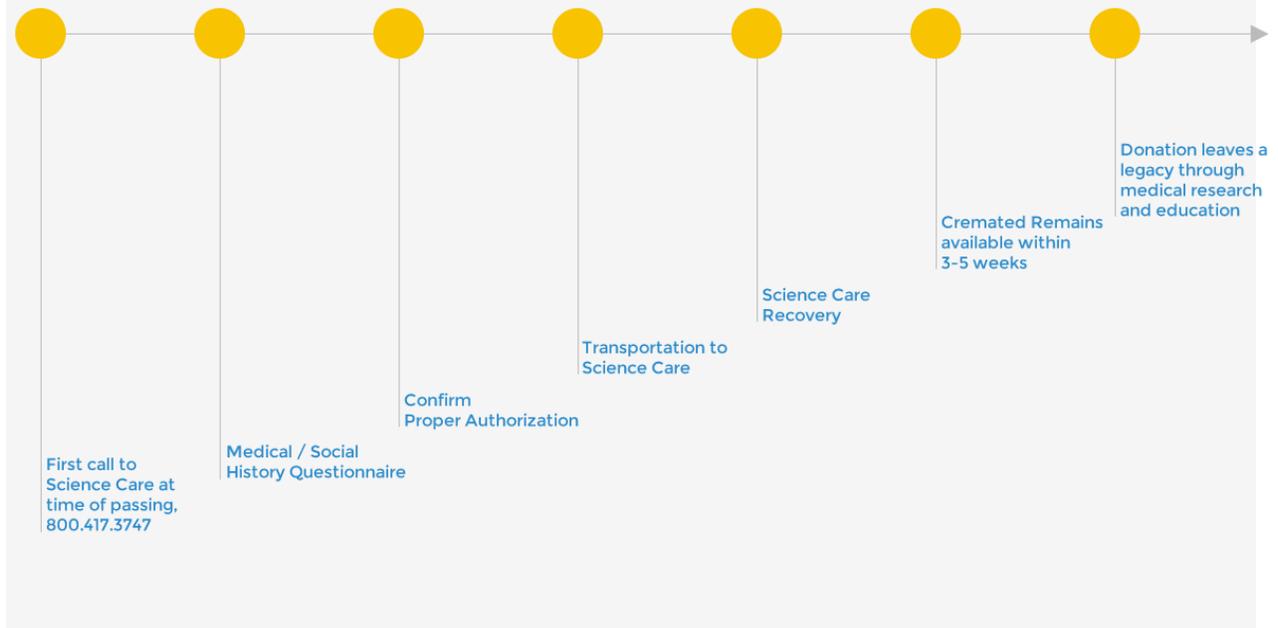
The most common question about how to donate to Science Care is, “who can donate?” The answer is simple. Most everyone will meet criteria for donation, including those with cancer, heart disease, arthritis and diabetes. Pre-registration is not required and there is **NO UPPER AGE LIMIT**. Plus, you can choose to be both a whole body donor and an organ donor. It doesn’t have to be one or the other. And by donating to research, your body lives on by allowing doctors and medical students the ability to research new life-saving medical and surgical procedures and techniques.

After Donation

- The tissue is recovered and used for a variety of medical research and education projects, such as cancer research, Alzheimer’s research, and training surgeons on the latest medical advancements.
- The tissue not used for research is cremated and available for return within 3-5 weeks.
- Following donation, we will send a letter that updates the family on current research projects and the impact their loved one has made to society.
- The family also receives a certificate commemorating the planting of a tree in honor of the donor at the one-year anniversary of donation through our participation with the [Arbor Day Foundation’s](#) reforestation program.

Typical Timeline

Donating Your Body To Science



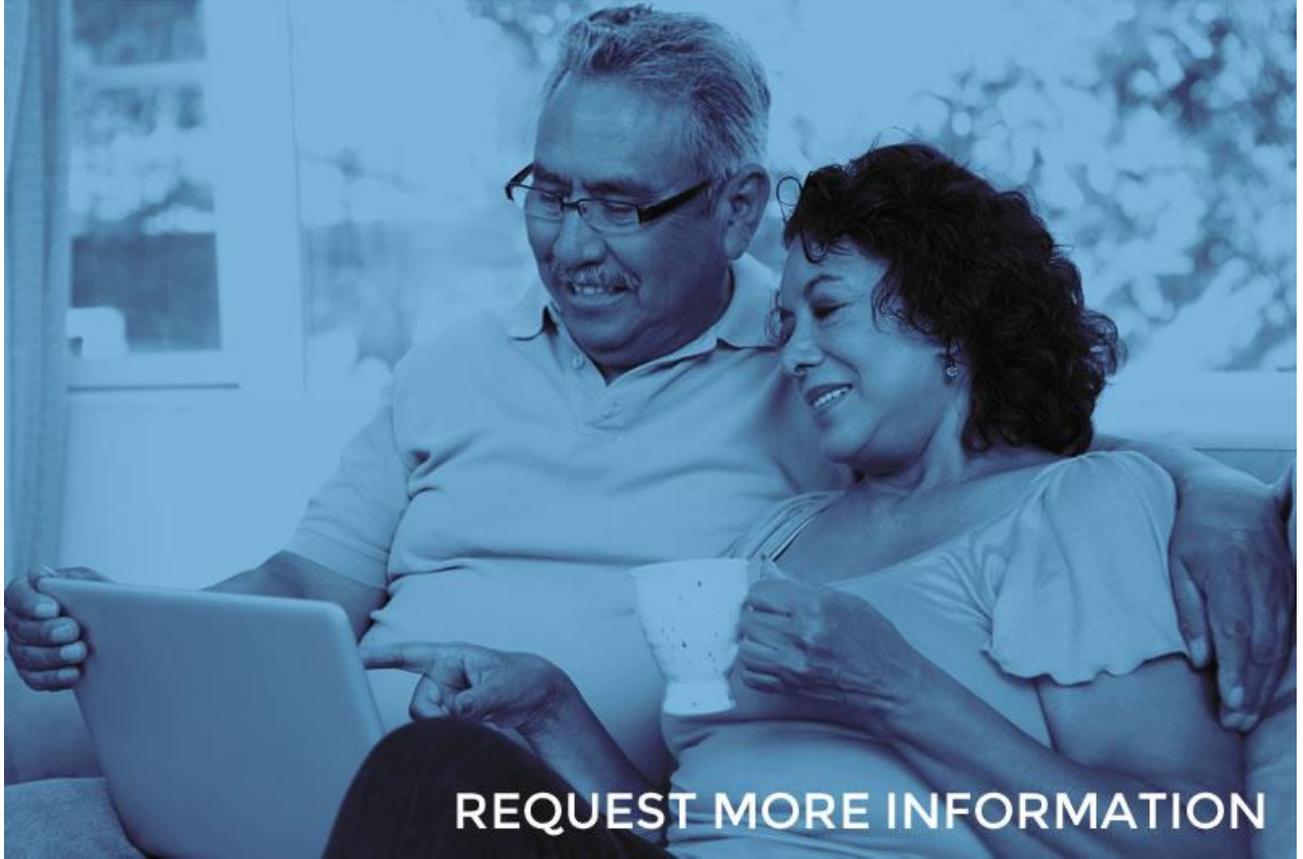


A Life-Affirming Choice

Giving Hope Through Whole Body Donation

Joining the donor registry is an important first step and helps to make your wishes known to your loved ones. Your information is never shared and is kept confidential with restricted access.

A life-affirming choice, donation is also a highly individual decision. In every way possible, Science Care honors your decision by adhering to the strictest guidelines through the entire donation process. Donation is no cost to the donor or donor's family, and each donor and family is treated with compassion, care, respect and dignity.



Need More Information?

About Whole Body Donation

If you need more information or have questions about whole body donation, please give us a call. Our family services coordinators are available 24 hours a day – 7 days a week and can answer all of your questions.