

Frequently Asked Questions

How and when will I receive the death certificates? If a funeral home is involved with the pickup and removal of the donor they will typically file for the death certificate and order for the family. If a funeral home is not involved or decides not to file the death certificate the Anatomical Gift Program will file the death certificate and the family will order from the Arkansas Department of Health at healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/certificates-records/order-death-records/ It generally takes four to six weeks to receive the death certificate.

How long will the donor stay in the Anatomical Gift Program? Donors remain in the program for two to three years.

What happens during the donor's stay at the Anatomical Gift Program? Donors to the Anatomical Gift Program participate in programs that enable the critical teaching for various medical education programs, including but not limited to the latest surgical techniques and life-saving skills training. This participation may involve dissection and/or anatomical disarticulation or segmentation (e.g. removal of extremities), preservation, photography/imaging. All donors are treated with the utmost dignity and respect.

What happens when the studies on the donor have been completed? The Anatomical Gift Program staff arranges to have the donor cremated at no cost to the family. We will follow the final disposition request of each donor that is listed on their enrollment forms.

Will whole body donation impact my ability to have a funeral? Since the donor must be transported to the Anatomical Gift program so soon after death, whole body donation will prohibit a traditional open casket funeral. Many families choose to have a memorial service either prior to or after receiving their loved one's ashes.

Is it possible to have the donor's cremated remains returned? Absolutely. Upon cremation, the remains may be returned to the person designated by the donor. The cremated remains may not include all of the tissues that have been recovered for medical education and research purposes and these may be appropriately medically incinerated. If there is not a designee appointed at the time of death by the donor or by the legal authorizing party, the donor's cremated remains will be interred in our designated burial plots at Forrest Hills Memorial Park in Alexander, AR.

Thank you for considering whole body donation. Donors working with the Anatomical Gift Program experience the respect and appreciation deserved by those enabling the critical work of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Anatomical Gift Program. Please review the following before you begin filling out our paperwork.

Return forms to **UAMS Anatomical Gift Program**

4301 W. Markham St., #510
Little Rock, AR. 72205

Regular business hours are 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Central time, Monday through Friday.

If death is imminent or has recently occurred, a medical representative (e.g. hospice staff), family member or legally authorized party should call to speak with an Anatomical Gift Program representative. There is someone available to accept imminent death or recent death calls 24 hours a day, seven days a week, after hours, on weekends and holidays at 501-686-7000.

For all other matters, please call during regular business hours at 501-686-7019.

UAMS | College of Medicine
Department of Neurosciences

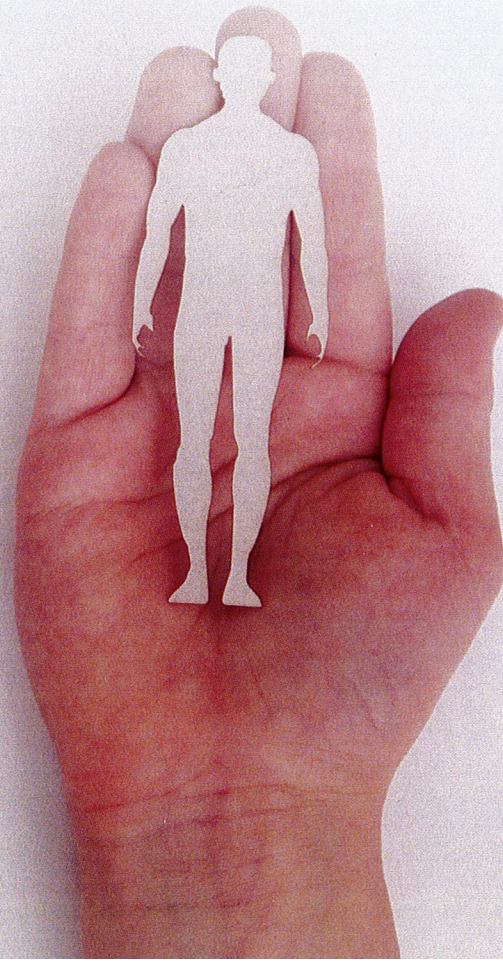


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Anatomical Gift Program

How The Donation Process Works

1. Become a pre-registered donor or enter the program at the time of death: a. You can become a pre-registered donor by submitting the attached paperwork to the UAMS Anatomical Gift Program. b. Call the Anatomical Gift Program at time of death at 501-686-7019 or after hours at 501-686-7000.
2. In cases where an individual other than the donor is authorizing the donation, the state Uniform Anatomical Gift Act provides which individuals may make the gift, in the order specified. Please check with the Anatomical Gift Program in order to determine who the correct authorizing party is.
3. Donor forms will be reviewed to make sure the donor is currently eligible. Please note that the Anatomical Gift Program may not be able to accept every willing donor, and may decline to accept a donor who does not meet the requirements for anatomical donations at the time of death. Please contact our office for exclusion criteria.
4. The Anatomical Gift Program receives and uses the donor for medical education and/or research.
5. The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences incurs the costs for the following after physical possession of the donor has occurred: (a) Donor transportation to UAMS: 4301 W. Markham St., Little Rock, AR. 72205 (b) Cremation of donor (c) Return of cremains to family/legal authorizing party or interment at Forrest Hills Memorial Park in Alexander, AR.
6. Cremated remains are available within 2-3 years from the donor's arrival at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.



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Information For The Donors

Am I eligible for body donation?

Most adults are able to make this gift. Please note that the Anatomical Gift Program accepts no responsibility for any anatomical gift until signed and witnessed donor forms have been received. It is suggested that donors have an alternative plan should they be ineligible at the time of death due to any medical conditions that would prevent them from being a "good teacher."

What is the criteria for donation? To be eligible you cannot have anything contagious like, Tuberculosis, HIV/Aids, Hepatitis C. You cannot have cancer that has spread (metastasized) to other organs. We cannot accept anyone that has had any trauma to the body, or suicide victims. We cannot accept anyone that is either obese or emaciated and all donors must be 18 years of age.

How can I pre-register for the Anatomical Gift Program? Pre-register by filling out the Anatomical Gift Program donor forms; once received, we will reply by mail and include several donor cards. Donors who are not pre-registered may be accepted at the time of death if they meet current donor criteria. A legal authorizing party may complete paperwork at the time of death. Based upon exclusion criteria, ALL donor final acceptance (pre-registered or at death) is determined at the time of death.

Can a person be an organ donor and an Anatomical Gift Program donor? No, the Anatomical Gift Program is a whole body donation program.

What will happen to my personal effects?

The next of kin should claim any jewelry or other personal effects prior to donor transport to the Anatomical Gift Program. We will not be responsible for any unclaimed personal effects including, but not limited to, jewelry, medical devices/implants, dentition, etc. All clothing will be discarded.

Information For Families

How soon after death should the Anatomical Gift Program be contacted? Immediately, the program has five (5) days to receive the donor and embalm for our purposes. It is imperative that we be notified immediately so that proper care may be given to your loved one. You will need to call the Anatomical Gift Program at 501-686-7019 or for after hours and weekends call 501-686-7000, and ask for the Anatomical Gift Program representative on call.

Who is responsible for transporting the donor to the Anatomical Gift Program? Upon notification of death and after the Anatomical Gift Program staff have completed screening to confirm acceptance, the family is responsible for arranging the removal and cold storage of the donor, if the donor passes away at a home/facility with no morgue/cold storage available. Once that is done, the family will notify the Anatomical Gift Program staff on where to pick up the donor for transport to our facility.