

COMMON QUESTIONS

About Donor Eligibility

Giving whole blood requires a waiting period of 56 days between donations; however, all we ask is for individuals to **Commit for Life** and donate once every quarter. For more information, please call Donor Services at (713) 791-6608 or email medops@giveblood.org.

CAN I DONATE IF...

Q | I just got a tattoo or body piercing?

Yes, you can donate one week after getting a tattoo or piercing in a licensed facility.

A

Q | I am on antibiotics?

Yes, you can donate 48 hours after you complete your medication and are symptom free.

A

Q | I have high blood pressure?

Yes, you can donate if your blood pressure is controlled.

A

Q | I had cancer?

Most cancers have a three-year deferral. Minor skin cancers have a two-week deferral. Leukemia and lymphoma are the only cancers that have an indefinite deferral.

A

Q | I have recently had a pregnancy/miscarriage?

Yes, you can donate six weeks after the end of your pregnancy.

A

Q | I had surgery?

Yes, you can donate. If you had a blood transfusion, you are deferred for one year.

A

Q | I have a thyroid condition?

Yes, you can donate if thyroid is controlled by medication.

A

Q | I have traveled outside the United States?

Please bring dates and locations for everywhere you have been if you have traveled outside the United States or Canada within the last 12 months, or if you have lived outside the United States or Canada during the last three years.

A

Q | I have diabetes?

Yes. You can donate if you are feeling well, regardless of blood sugar level.

A