
Letter to Parents

Dear Parents:

Last year, donations collected at over 150 high schools represented approximately 25% of the mobile collections for Heartland Blood Centers. Thanks to their support several thousand patients were saved!

As the need for blood is always constant, it is important that we support and encourage the young generation of today to continue to give the "Gift of Life" by donating blood. Research shows that students who become blood donors in high school frequently go on to become seasoned donors throughout their adult lives.

Heartland Blood Centers would like to commend and congratulate all 150 high schools who have participated in a commitment to life. Additionally, we would like to thank them for their generous blood donations and thank the parents for their support and encouragement to a life-long blood donation program.

BLOOD DONATIONS (ILLINOIS LAW)

AN ACT relating to certain blood donations. P.A. 76 1217, & 1, approved and eff. Sept. 11, 1969.

600. Donors -- Age -- Involuntary donations

& 1. (a) Any person 17 years of age or older may donate blood, if donation can be completely voluntary, without the necessity of obtaining the permission or authorization of his or her parent or guardian.

(b) Any person 16 years of age may donate blood, if that person obtains written permission or authorization from his or her parent or guardian.

No donation shall be construed to be involuntary within the meaning of this Section solely because the donor receives a right to any lawful preference or special treatment of any kind in receiving blood in return for his donation.

Amended by P.A. 86-540, & 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

After donating blood, your son or daughter will be asked to:

- (1) Eat and drink the refreshments provided before leaving.
- (2) Stay at the blood drive site until released by a Heartland staff member.
- (3) Drink more fluids than usual during the next 4 hours.
- (4) Refrain from smoking for one half hour following blood donation.
- (5) Leave the bandage on for about 4 – 6 hours.
- (6) Refrain from excessive bending, pushing or lifting as it may result in a bruise.

Although rare, a donor may experience an adverse reaction during blood collection or within a few hours after drawing. Should your son/daughter experience any adverse reaction, we ask that they return to the blood drive for immediate care (if we are still at the school) or contact our Donor Advocate or Blood Collection Management by calling 1-800-7 TO-GIVE.

Adverse consequences to blood donation may include dizziness, fainting, bruising, nerve or blood vessel injury. For additional pre-donation info or after-care instructions, see our website: heartlandbc.org.



KEEP TOP PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS – STUDENTS MUST PRESENT BOTTOM PORTION AT BLOOD DRIVE

I hereby give my son/daughter permission to donate blood to Heartland Blood Centers.

Student Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent's Daytime or Cell Phone # _____