



American Red Cross

Blood Services
Great Lakes Region



Why Donate Blood?

[FIND A BLOOD DRIVE](#)

Every two seconds, someone in the United States needs blood. That's a lot of blood. But only 5% of the eligible US population donates blood in any given year. Healthy donors are the only source of blood. Currently there is no substitute.

Blood is needed for emergencies and for people who have cancer, blood disorders, sickle cell, anemia and other illnesses. Some people need regular blood transfusions to live.

Imagine if giving blood was part of everyone's life. Something you did on a regular basis, like eating at your favorite restaurant. What kind of difference would that make? For nearly 5 million people who receive blood transfusions every year, your donation can make the difference between life and death.

Giving blood is simple and convenient:

here are the **top 10 reasons** to give:

- You will get free juice and cookies.
- You will weigh less — one pint less when you leave than when you came in.
- It's easy and convenient — it only takes about an hour and you can make the donation at a donor center, or at one of the many Red Cross mobile blood drives.
- It's something you can spare — most people have blood to spare... yet, there is still not enough to go around.
- Nobody can ask you to do any heavy lifting as long as you have the bandage on. You can wear it for as long as you like.
- It's your badge of honor.
- You will walk a little taller afterwards — you will feel good about yourself.
- You will be helping to ensure that blood is there when you or someone close to you may need it. Most people don't think they'll ever need blood, but many do.
- It's something you can do on equal footing with the rich and famous — blood is something money can't buy. Only something one person can give to another.
- You will be someone's hero — you may give a newborn, a child, a mother or a father, a brother, or a sister another chance at life. In fact, you may help save up to three lives with just one donation.
- It's the right thing to do.

The Reason

Every two seconds, someone in America needs blood, yet only 5% of the population chooses to donate. Here is one example...

Six year old Tristen was diagnosed with a rare form of anemia when he was two.

As part of his treatment, he received multiple blood transfusions. Blood donors, and those that help recruit donors, are his heroes.



Tristen is just one of the thousands of people in our community who need your help. Your school has the opportunity to show today's youth that saving a life is easy...it all starts with just one person.

Our Red Cross representatives are here to help...please give us a call today!

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for a list of
blood donation facts.