

# Organ Donor Registration



In the United States, people must actively register – or opt-in – to donate their organs after death. The decision to register as an organ donor is legally binding, and LifeSource is responsible for:

**Eliminating barriers and empowering informed choices.**

**Advocating for the individual's choice to register.**

**Honoring donation decisions at the time of donation.**



## How to join the organ donor registry

LifeSource has adopted new technologies, collaborated with donation partners and worked with state and local governments to expand opportunities for individuals to register to donate. The following registration opportunities are available:

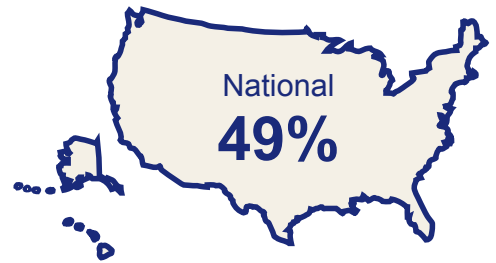
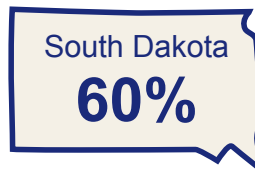
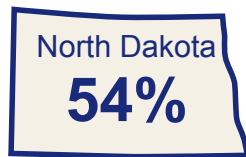
- **At the DMV** when individuals apply for or renew your driver's license or a state ID card.
- **Online** at [Life-Source.org/Register](https://Life-Source.org/Register) or [RegisterMe.org](https://RegisterMe.org).
- **Via the iPhone Health app.** Sign up to be a donor in the Health App of any Apple mobile device like your iPhone or iPad.
- **Online hunting and fishing licenses.** Minnesota was the first state in the country to add this as an option to register.
- **Tribal identification cards.** Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa in Belcourt, ND was the first tribe to add donor registration to tribal IDs.

## What happens if a decision is not documented?

If a person does not join the donor registry prior to death and dies in a way that meets criteria as potential organ donor, their loved ones will have the opportunity to make that decision on their behalf. A large portion of people who have not registered opt to leave that decision to their family, while still supportive of organ donation.



## Donor registration rates



## Authorization at time of donation

It's the role of LifeSource to honor the decision an individual has made to become an organ donor. To become an organ donor, an individual must be at a hospital, already on a ventilator and death is imminent. When a patient meets these criteria, the hospital care team will refer them to LifeSource. LifeSource searches the donor registry for the presence of a donor registration.

- **1%** of deaths will meet donation criteria
- **~ 55%** of those who have donation potential are authorized, either by donor registration or by their loved ones.

## Common challenges to authorization

Patient not registered and did not discuss donation in advance with family.

Family unable to make decision due to their intense grief and shock.

Family unable to accommodate case timing.

Family doesn't agree with patient's donor registration decision.

Hospital lacking collaboration and/or premature withdrawal of ventilated support.

View interactive  
county-by-county map  
of organ donation  
registration at the DMV.

