

Thank you for your interest in the Gift of Body program offered by the partnership of the Alabama Organ Center, (AOC), and the International Institute for the Advancement of Medicine (IIAM), and the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). Attached is a brief summary of the sequence of events and how the tissues are placed with researchers along with a consent form, personal information form, and medical-social history questionnaire.

Anatomical donation is an option to families that wish to donate when no other option may be available due to a variety of medicine conditions including age, health status, and/or cause of death. In some instances, anatomical donation may be coupled with other types of donation such as eye, cornea, bone, tissue, and organ donation for transplantation. It is important that if you wish to consent to other donation options, such as eye and tissue, that you share this decision with your family. At the time of death, additional donation options will be presented if medically suitability is established. The need for research tissues used by medical researchers, pharmaceutical companies, and medical student and residents grows on a daily basis.

The Gift of Body Program is offered at no cost to the family. The AOC bears the financial responsibility of transportation to the recovery facility in Birmingham, Alabama, recovery costs, facility usage, cremation, filing and obtaining four certified copies of the death certificate, and return of the cremains to the next of kin. Additionally, for donors that are honorably discharged veterans, the AOC will provide the forms necessary for the family to obtain a burial flag.

If you are interested in pre-registering for the Gift of Body program, please complete all of the informational forms and return to our address to my attention. Upon receipt of the consent and personal information form and medical-social history, you will be mailed an instruction form of necessary steps to facilitate the donation process upon your passing. If you have additional questions or wish to discuss this program in greater detail, please do not hesitate to contact me at 1-800-252-3677.

I hope that this information has been helpful in assisting you with the arrangement of your end of life decisions. Although we will make every effort to accept the donation at the time of death, we must express to you that the certain conditions may arise in the future, such as changes in the medical acceptance criteria, which may preclude the donation.

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