



Driver Education Instructor Script

Today we will discuss some basic information about organ, tissue and eye donation. When you apply for your new driver's license at the Secretary of State, you will be asked if you want your name added to the Michigan Organ Donor Registry. Registering to become an organ and tissue donor is a personal decision, and it's important to discuss it with your family. One person can save up to 8 lives through organ donation and heal up to 75 lives through tissue donation.

Gift of Life Michigan, the federally designated organ and tissue recovery organization, has created a short video to address the most common questions new drivers may have about organ and tissue donation. Let's watch the video and talk about it afterwards.

[play video]

People who join the Donor Registry will receive a red heart donor symbol printed on the front of their driver's license. The Donor Registry is a confidential database that documents your decision to become an organ, tissue and eye donor. Your gift will be used to help others through transplantation, therapy, research and education.

There are no age restrictions to join the Donor Registry.

- If the person is under 18, the parents or legal next-of-kin can override the donation decision if something were to happen to the individual.
- Once the person turns 18, even if they signed up at 16, the donation decision will be honored and cannot be changed by anyone except the individual who made it.
- Be sure to discuss your decision with your family.

There are many myths and misconceptions about organ, tissue and eye donation. Here are the facts:

- Anyone has the potential to be a donor, regardless of age, ethnicity or health history.
- Hospital staff will make every effort to save your life before Gift of Life is contacted. By law, the medical team treating you is completely separate from the transplant team.
- Organs that can be donated include heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas and intestines.
- Tissues that can be donated include skin, veins, bones, tendons, nerves and corneas.

Gift of Life is providing the following:

- *All of Us* brochure – This brochure describes the basics of organ and tissue donation. You can sign up on the Donor Registry online at golg.org, on the paper form, or at a Secretary of State branch office.
- Wallet card – **[distribute cards]** These cards can be used to remind you to talk to your family about your decision. The information on the back side could be useful if you're ever in an accident, so you may wish to keep this in your wallet.
- Parent letter – Please share this letter with your parents.
- Student letter – Please review this letter before talking with your family.

Now we are going to take a short quiz to test your knowledge.

Thank you for learning about the vital importance of saving and healing lives through organ, tissue and eye donation!

Questions? Contact Gift of Life at golg.org or 866-500-5801.