

Guidelines: Uniform Anatomical Gift Program

The Uniform Anatomical Body Gift Program came into existence under the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act adopted July 30, 1968 by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Law and the American Bar Association. This Act enables individuals to donate their bodies or bodily organs to medical science. Body donors are used in many aspects of medical science, primarily research and teaching. It is a rapidly expanding branch of medical technology. At the Medical University of South Carolina, body donors are used for teaching freshman students in various health programs such as medicine, dentistry, and allied health, as well as some advanced electives in the junior and senior years.

Who may donate? The Medical University of South Carolina graciously appreciates your interest in our Anatomical Body Gift Program. The Anatomical Body Gift requires that a donor must be an individual of sound mind and 18 years of age or more. Individuals wishing to become donors must be the person to execute the Anatomical Body Gift form.

The Medical University of South Carolina will not accept next of kin donations.

Becoming a donor Our students need to study bodies not altered by major surgery. Individuals who wish to become donors in the Anatomical Body Gift Program should personally evaluate their own medical history with regard to the following points:

- Weight proportional to height
- None of the following contagious diseases: hepatitis, meningitis, tuberculosis, HIV
- No amputations of upper or lower limbs
- Organ donors are not accepted (except those donating eyes only)

Potential donors must complete, with witnesses, both the Anatomical Body Gift form and the background information form in its entirety and return the completed, signed forms to:

MUSC Anatomical Gift Program
Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy
173 Ashley Avenue, BSB 601
MCS 508
Charleston, SC 29425-5080

We do reserve the right to reject body donors at any time, in case of unforeseen circumstances (such as full capacity of our storage facility). We have many participants in this program and are unable to accept all donors at the time of their death. You should have alternate arrangements made to provide for care of your remains, should we be unable to accept your donation. Donors may withdraw from the program at any time.

The Medical University of South Carolina does not return the cremated remains of donors. However, arrangements have been made with our local cremation center and the center will return the cremated remains to your designee for a fee of \$600. **If you would like this to be done, please check this option on the donor form. This will be recorded and information regarding this service will be sent to you.**