GLAAD, the world’s leading lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBTQ) media advocacy organization, has launched the Summer of Giving national blood drive campaign in collaboration with America’s Blood Centers, the national organization of community-based, independent blood centers that supply 60 percent of the nation’s blood supply.

Running from Tuesday, May 28, 2024, through National Blood Donation Day on Wednesday, September 4, 2024, this initiative aims to encourage businesses to host blood drives and all eligible individuals to donate blood in recognition of recent eligibility changes that promote fairness and inclusivity in the donation process while maintaining the safety of the blood supply.

Blood centers around the country have implemented the new FDA guidance that expands blood donor eligibility to more LGBTQIA community members! With this update, sexual orientation is no longer a consideration for donor eligibility. This significant change opens the doors for many individuals to now donate blood.

In accordance with these new FDA guidelines, a modified screening process has been implemented centering on an individualized donor assessment.

The FDA’s prior guidance included donor eligibility questions that considered the gender of a donor and their sexual partners and required a three-month deferral for any male who has had sex with another male in the past three months.
The donor history questionnaire has been updated to inquire about all donors' recent or multiple sexual partners within the past three months, regardless of gender of either party.

This change recognizes that susceptibility to infectious diseases, including HIV, is not determined solely by sexual orientation or identity.

This donor history questionnaire is gender-neutral and asks the same questions to all donors regardless of their gender or sexual orientation. Transgender and nonbinary individuals are welcome to donate blood.

These changes reflect the blood community's commitment to inclusivity while ensuring the safety of the blood supply. While important, they are one step in the larger process.

The blood and LGBTQIA communities are working to ensure the FDA swiftly implements further changes as quickly as scientific data warrants to bring even greater equality to the blood donation process.

Donate regularly.
Donate with pride.