



Summer of Giving

DONATE WITH PRIDE

A New Era of Eligibility

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.

With this update, the sexual orientation of a donor and their sexual partners will no longer be a consideration for donor eligibility. The FDA's updated eligibility guidelines include:



Any individual who has had a new sexual partner in the past three months and has engaged in anal sex during that same period is deferred for three months from the most recent sexual contact.



Any individual who has had more than one sexual partner in the past three months and has engaged in anal sex during the same period is deferred for three months from the most recent sexual contact.



Any individual who has taken any oral antiviral medication to prevent HIV (PrEP or PEP) is deferred for three months from the most recent dose. These medications may delay detection of HIV and result in false negative test results.



Any Individual who has taken any long-lasting antiviral medication by injection to prevent HIV (PrEP or PEP) is deferred for two years from the most recent injection. These medications may delay detection of HIV and result in false negative test results.



Any individual who has ever taken any medication (i.e., ART) to treat an HIV infection is permanently deferred.

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.



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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.**

Find Your Community Blood Center



America's Blood Centers' member organizations operate more than 600 blood collection sites providing close to 60 percent of the U.S., and a quarter of the Canadian, blood supply.

Host a Blood Drive with Your Organization



Download ABC's complementary Workplace Workbook to learn how to elevate your organization's impact on community blood donation.

Take Action to Make Your Voice Heard



We all bleed the same. Advocate for expanded FDA research to further safely broaden blood donation eligibility, saving more lives.