

Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness (OTDA) Curriculum Toolkit



The activities described in this report were supported in part by the U.S. Department of Education, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13. However, the opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the position or policy of the U.S. Department of Education, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, or Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13, and no official endorsement by these agencies should be inferred.

This toolkit was created by Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13 (IU13), as subcontracted by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Published 2019. For questions about this toolkit or to request additional copies, please contact:

- Karen Herr, Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Project Coordinator, at (717) 947-1616 or karen_herr@iu13.org, or
- John V. Kashatus, School Safety Education Advisor, Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction Division of Instructional Quality, at (717) 783-4382 or johkashatu@pa.gov



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Tom Wolf, Governor

Department of Education
Pedro A. Rivera, Secretary

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
Matt Stem, Deputy Secretary

Bureau of Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction
Brian Campbell, Bureau Director

Division of Instructional Quality
Vacant, Division Chief

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) does not discriminate in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices, based on race, color, national origin, [sex] gender, sexual orientation, disability, age, religion, ancestry, union membership, gender identity or expression, AIDS or HIV status, or any other legally protected category. Announcement of this policy is in accordance with State Law including the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act and with Federal law, including Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the Pennsylvania Department of Education's nondiscrimination policies:

For Inquiries Concerning Nondiscrimination in Employment:

Pennsylvania Department of Education
Equal Employment Opportunity Representative
Bureau of Human Resources
Voice Telephone: (717) 783-5446

For Inquiries Concerning Nondiscrimination in All Other Pennsylvania Department of Education Programs and Activities:

Pennsylvania Department of Education
School Services Unit Director
333 Market Street, 5th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333
Voice Telephone: (717) 783-3750, Fax: (717) 783-6802

If you have any questions about this publication or for additional copies, contact:

Pennsylvania Department of Education
Division of Instructional Quality
John V. Kashatus, School Safety Education Advisor
333 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333
www.education.pa.gov

All Media Requests/Inquiries: Contact the Office of Press & Communications at (717) 783-9802



INTRODUCTION

Introduction to the Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Revised Toolkit *March 2019*

Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness (OTDA) education is an initiative of the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) designed to provide public school students with the knowledge and skills they need to make informed decisions related to organ and tissue donation. The initiative began in 1994 when the state legislature passed the Governor Casey Act. Act 102, as it is called, stipulates that the commonwealth makes a comprehensive and collaborative effort toward increasing organ and tissue donation awareness among the citizens of Pennsylvania.

In February of 2019, Bill 108 was passed and Act 90 of 2018 was signed into law by Governor Wolfe. Within the legislation it is required that a curriculum framework be developed by the Department of Education. This curriculum toolkit fulfills the requirements set forth by Act 90 of 2018.

The OTDA Education Project is an ongoing partnership between the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13 since 1996. The mission of the OTDA Project is to promote awareness of organ and tissue donation in the secondary schools throughout the commonwealth. It is our responsibility as educators, to provide students with the information and tools necessary to make informed decisions regarding organ and tissue donation. The revised OTDA Curriculum Toolkit was designed to reflect current legislation, research, teaching strategies, and resources.

This revised toolkit meets the requirements of PDE as described in Act 90 of 2018. These three foci include:

1. To provide a scientific overview of anatomical donation, its history and scientific advancement.
2. Fully address the risks and benefits of and the myths and misunderstandings regarding organ and tissue donation.
3. Explain the options available to minors and adults, including the option of designating oneself as an organ and tissue donor and the option of not designating oneself as an organ and tissue donor.

Schoology and Standards Aligned System (SAS)

The toolkit also provides a Schoology forum and SAS portal for Pennsylvania educators, nurses, administrators, and our PA partners to share information, lesson plans, links, articles, and more for bringing organ and tissue donation awareness to Pennsylvania students in grades 9 through 12.

The purpose of the toolkit is:

- To provide secondary educators with information about OTDA.
- To provide secondary educators with tools they can readily use to implement the OTDA Curriculum Framework.
- To provide both a concrete and web-based format so that teachers can choose the most comfortable and convenient access route to this vital information.
- To provide resources to enable students to make personal choices regarding organ and tissue donation.



PARTNERS



Center for Organ Recovery & Education

A Pledge for Life

The Center for Organ Recovery & Education (CORE) is one of 58 federally designated not-for-profit organ procurement organizations (OPOs) in the United States, serving more than five million people in western Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Chemung County, NY. Like all OPOs, CORE coordinates the recovery and matching of organs, tissues and corneas for transplant within our service region and works tirelessly to create a culture of donation within the hospitals and communities we serve. CORE's goal is to end the deaths of those on the transplant waiting list, all the while maintaining integrity for the donation process, dignity for the donors, and compassion for their families.



Headquartered in Philadelphia, PA, Gift of Life Donor Program is the largest organ procurement organization (OPO) in the United States, serving 11.2 million people across the eastern half of Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey and Delaware. The non-profit, federally-designated OPO is part of the national network, UNOS, the United Network for Organ Sharing. Working in partnership with the 128 acute care hospitals and 15 transplant centers in its designated service area, Gift of Life helps give people a second chance at life. Since 1974, Gift of Life has coordinated more than 47,000 organs for transplantation and approximately one million life-enhancing tissue transplants.

PRE-TEST

1. How do you become an organ donor?
2. What organs can be used for donation?
3. How are donors and recipients matched?
4. Are there health requirements to become a donor?
5. Have you ever read anything about organ and tissue donation?
6. If you are an organ donor, do you think your organs can be used for transplant?
7. Do you think if you smoke or drink you can become an organ donor?
8. How is organ tissue donation done in other countries?
9. What happens during a transplant?
10. How long can organs be kept after recovery before they are transplanted?
11. What does the acronym CORE stand for?
12. If you are not designated as an organ donor, can your family designate for you?
13. If your family does not want you to donate your organs, can you still be a donor?
14. Does this topic scare you?
15. Why is it important to understand organ and tissue donation?
16. OPO is an acronym for _____.



POST-TEST

1. How do you become an organ donor?
2. What organs can be used for donation?
3. How are donors and recipients matched?
4. Are there health requirements to become a donor?
5. Have you ever read anything about organ and tissue donation?
6. If you are an organ donor, do you think your organs can be used for transplant?
7. Do you think if you smoke or drink you can become an organ donor?
8. How is organ tissue donation done in other countries?
9. What happens during a transplant?
10. How long can organs be kept after recovery before they are transplanted?
11. What does the acronym CORE stand for?
12. If you are not designated as an organ donor, can your family designate for you?
13. If your family does not want you to donate your organs, can you still be a donor?
14. Does this topic scare you?
15. Why is it important to understand organ and tissue donation?
16. OPO is an acronym for _____.



TOP MYTHS ABOUT DONATION



MYTH 1:

If I am in an accident and the doctors or nurses find my donor card, they will not try to save my life.

FACT: Doctors, nurses and paramedics will do everything to try to save your life. In fact, an individual needs to be in the hospital, on a ventilator and pronounced dead in order to donate organs. An organ procurement organization (OPO) is not notified until all life-saving efforts have failed.

MYTH 2:

I do not want my body “cut up.”

FACT: Donated organs and tissue are removed surgically in the regular hospital operating room. Doctors maintain dignity and respect for the donor at all times.

MYTH 3:

Wealthy people are the only people who receive transplants.

FACT: Most major insurances now cover heart, liver, kidney, and lung transplants. Donors don't need to pay for donation, either. An organ procurement organization (OPO) assumes all costs related to the donation. Additionally, organs are matched first according to clinical criteria, such as blood type, followed by medical urgency and then time accrued on the waiting list.

MYTH 4:

I am not the right age for donation.

FACT: Organs may be donated from someone as young as a newborn. There is no age limit for organ donation. The general age limit for tissue is 80 and for corneas is 70.



MYTH 5:

If I do not sign a donor card, my organs and tissues won't be donated.

FACT: Without a donor card or donor designation, families of suitable donors will be offered the opportunity to donate. To ensure your wishes are fulfilled, sign a donor card or place the designation on your license/state identification card.

MYTH 6:

My religion does not support donation.

FACT: Major organized religions support donation.

MYTH 7:

Only heart, liver and kidneys can be transplanted.

FACT: The pancreas, lungs, and intestines can also be transplanted, as can corneas, bone, ligaments, tendons, heart valves, saphenous veins and skin.

MYTH 8:

I don't want my organs going to people who didn't take care of theirs.

FACT: Most recipients have illnesses or diseases unrelated to lifestyle choices. People who abuse drugs/alcohol make up less than 5% of recipients, and must stay sober for 5 months before being added to the transplant list.

MYTH 9:

I have a history of medical illness. You would not want anything.

FACT: At the time of death, an organ procurement organization (OPO) will review medical and social histories to determine suitability. Few illnesses or conditions prevent someone from being a donor.

