Anatomical Gift Procedures
for Funeral Directors

Contact the School of Medicine to confirm a donation prior to meeting with family and to schedule a delivery time.

- Daytime: (618) 453-8438 or (618) 453-1464
- Evenings/Weekends: (317) 372-6836, (618) 922-5647, or (618) 967-9086

The funeral director must confirm the donor meets the following criteria prior to the SIU School of Medicine acceptance of the donation. If the donor does not meet all the criteria, the body will not be accepted at the time of delivery.

- Maximum body size is 6’ tall and 20” elbow to elbow.
- Maximum weight is 220 pounds.
- Bodies that have been autopsied, severe trauma, decomposition, or used for organ donations (other than corneas) are not accepted by SIU School of Medicine.
- Individuals with any of the following conditions will not be acceptable donors: AIDS/HIV, bacterial sepsis, Hepatitis B or C, Herpes II, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, meningitis, Paget's disease, staphylococcus (including MRSA), tuberculosis, or COVID. This includes for both the primary cause of death or contributing factors.
- Time between death and the donation may be a factor. The donation should take place within 24 hours from the time of death unless other arrangements have been made with the School of Medicine.

All the necessary documents listed below must accompany the donor when delivery is made to the SIU School of Medicine. A donation will not be accepted if the necessary documents are not complete or if documentation is not available at the time of delivery.
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- The original signed Anatomical Donation form that has been signed by the donor or next of kin. **The signature of the individual authorizing the donation needs to be witnessed by two individuals that are not related to the donor.**
- A copy of a death certificate signed by the doctor and registrar with the cause of death listed
- Permit for Disposition of Dead Human Body with SIU School of Medicine, Carbondale, IL, listed as the location of disposition (VR-204). 
- Coroner's Permit to Cremate. List SIU School of Medicine, Carbondale, IL, as the crematory location (VR-204.1-Yellow Copy). The IVRS system will not allow a Coroner’s Permit to Cremate to be generated for an anatomical donation or scientific study, so a paper copy will need to be obtained from the coroner or registrar.
- The Authorization for Disposal of Cremated Remains form signed by the donor, or their next of kin, stating their intentions for the cremated remains following cremation. This is required if they choose to have the cremated remains returned **as well as if they want the School of Medicine to dispose of them.**
- We prefer to have the cremated remains returned to the funeral home if acceptable.

The SIU School of Medicine reserves the right to deny any anatomical donation. Prearrangement of donation is no guarantee of acceptance.