

# Facts About Living Kidney Donation

**Thank you for considering becoming a living kidney donor!**

Here's what you need to know about the process.



## How do I become a living kidney donor?

You can register through an individual microsite or at [www.kidneyregistry.com](http://www.kidneyregistry.com).



## What does living kidney donation involve?

Once you have registered, you'll provide a comprehensive medical history and undergo several tests. If you are approved, you will have surgery to remove your kidney.



## Do I have to be a match for the person I want to donate to?

If you donate through the National Kidney Registry, you do not have to be a medical match for your intended recipient. If you are not a match, the NKR will find a match for your kidney, and your donation will generate a voucher. This voucher allows your intended recipient to receive a living kidney donor transplant from a compatible donor.



## Will donating a kidney cost me anything? Who pays for my medical expenses, lost wages, and other costs?

Donating a kidney should not cost you anything. The medical expenses associated with kidney donation are generally covered by the recipient's insurance. Nonmedical costs incurred by the donor, such as lost wages, travel, and childcare, are covered by Donor Shield.



## Are there any long-term negative effects from donating a kidney?

Studies have shown that kidney donation does not significantly affect a donor's long-term health. Donors typically lead healthy lives and have life expectancies comparable to non-donors. The remaining kidney can usually perform all the necessary functions to keep donors healthy. Kidney donors do not have to take any medications or make any significant changes to their diets, lifestyles, or activities.

