

## Form A: Information on Whole Body Bequeathal

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Completion of this Form A will indicate an interest and desire in the after death donation of one's body. This form does not constitute a registration or acceptance into Western University's body bequeathal program as the eligibility of each potential donor is assessed after their death has occurred. Acceptance criteria can be fluid and changes with the University's current research and teaching needs.

Here are the steps you can take to prepare for the possibility of donation to Western University's body bequeathal form as your final disposition.

1. **Advise your executor and family of your wish, and leave a signed copy of this document with them or with your important papers.** It is important to have your executors aware of your desire to donate your body since the executor will need to make decisions regarding your disposition immediately after your death and before your will is read.
2. It may also help to have the following statement in your will so that the executor (and other family members) are assured that your wishes have been carried out: ***"Upon my death, I request that my body be made available to the Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology of the University of Western Ontario (or to the nearest medical school), to be used for medical education and research."*** It is not a requirement for donation to have a will.
3. If you are able, you may take the time to write out your detailed health history. This type of information will be anonymized and shared with the students and researchers who might benefit from this information in their course of study. Please keep that information together with this signed form A so that your executor or next of kin can pass it along to the University should you be accepted into the program.
4. You may consider making prearrangements with your preferred funeral home or cremation service. At this time, it is the policy of Western University to receive donors into our care via the services of a funeral home or cremation service. The expenses for these services (transportation, death registration, professional services) are borne by the estate of the deceased. It is advisable to also have a secondary plan in place for your ultimate disposition in the case that the University declines your donation. Please see the reverse side for further information on acceptance criteria.

**At the time of your death, a representative should:** telephone the Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology, University of Western Ontario (**days: 519-661-3014**) or the University Police Department (**weekends: 519-661-3300**) who will provide information on protocol to be followed.

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All expenses in connection with the ultimate cremation and interment (approximately 18 months to 3 years following receipt of the body) will be borne by the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western University. Notification of cremation and interment will be sent to the next-of-kin only if requested at the time of donation. Executors who desire to claim the cremated remains for private interment may do so, but in this case, expenses concerned with interment must be borne by the estate of the deceased.

***I hereby signify my wish to bequeath my body to the University of Western Ontario or other affiliated institution (or to the nearest medical school) for the purposes of medical education and research.***

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**(Please Print)**

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_ **WITNESSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

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While normally each body bequeathed to the Department will be accepted, the Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology reserves the right not to accept a donor. Presently, the program will decline, or refuse, individuals who:

- Have certain infectious diseases
- Have had recent major surgery
- Are in excess of 200 lbs in weight
- Are emaciated
- Have been organ donors (with some exceptions)
- Die outside the province of Ontario
- Have been embalmed

Bodies on which amputations or autopsies have been performed will be considered on a case by case basis. There will be times when the requirements of the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western University and other universities have been met and it is not possible to accept a body. The school reserves the right to decline any donor at any time.