



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

APPLICABILITY
PRISON/WORK RELEASE
OFFENDER/SPANISH MANUALS

REVISION DATE
7/29/21

PAGE NUMBER
1 of 4

NUMBER
DOC 620.300

POLICY

TITLE
**ORGAN/BLOOD DONATIONS BY INCARCERATED
INDIVIDUALS**

REVIEW/REVISION HISTORY:

Effective: 4/15/94
Revised: 7/3/03
Revised: 10/17/07
Revised: 12/26/08
Revised: 12/20/10
Revised: 2/1/13
Reviewed: 11/24/14
Revised: 7/29/21

SUMMARY OF REVISION/REVIEW:

Updated terminology throughout to include title
I.B.2.a., II.A., and II.A.2. - Adjusted language for clarification

APPROVED:

Signature on file

SARA KARIKO, MD
Chief Medical Officer

6/25/21

Date Signed

Signature on file

DAN JOHNSON, MBA
Assistant Secretary for Health Services

6/25/21


Date Signed

Signature on file

CHERYL STRANGE, Secretary
Department of Corrections

6/25/21

Date Signed

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REFERENCES:


DOC 100.100 is hereby incorporated into this policy; [RCW 68.64](#); [RCW 72.09.015](#); DOC 600.020 Offender-Paid Health Care; DOC 620.010 Advance Directives; DOC 620.200 Death of Offenders; [Washington DOC Health Plan](#)

POLICY:

- I. The Department has established procedures to facilitate organ/blood donations by living incarcerated individuals, and organ donations by deceased individuals who have chosen to be donors per RCW 68.64.

DIRECTIVE:

- I. Organ Donations
 - A. Living Incarcerated Individuals
 1. Incarcerated Individuals will generally be permitted to donate organs only when the recipient is the individual's immediate family member as defined in RCW 72.09.015, and with the approval of the Secretary and the Assistant Secretaries for Prisons and Health Services/designees.
 - a. The Department may make exceptions to the requirement that the recipient be a member of the donor's immediate family on a case-by-case basis.
 2. The organ donation process may occur only within Washington State.
 3. Individuals will be required to sign a statement provided by the hospital indicating they wish to donate an organ to a specified relative, and they understand the possible dangers of the donation and operation.
 4. The Department will incur no cost, including custody costs before, during, or after the hospitalization and surgery. This includes any real or potential complications that may result from the surgery and/or the organ donation.
 - a. Organ donations will be allowed only after documents have been executed with the appropriate entities to ensure that the Department incurs no liability or expense of any kind as a result of the organ donation.
 - b. Costs will be handled and insurance coverage verified per DOC 600.020 Offender-Paid Health Care.

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- c. The Department will assist in the necessary preliminary medical evaluations if they can be performed with minimal expense.

B. Deceased Incarcerated Individuals

1. Upon an individual's death, organ donations will be permitted when the individual or nearest living family member has consented to the donation per RCW 68.64. Nothing in this policy will preclude the Department from requesting an autopsy be performed per DOC 620.200 Death of Offenders.
 - a. Individuals may give consent to donate by completing an Organ Donor Card or DOC 13-311 Health Care Directive.
 - b. An individual's valid driver's license bearing the organ donor symbol will be considered consent to donate.
2. The Department will make every effort to give timely notice to the appropriate authorities when it has knowledge that the deceased individual or the individual's nearest living family member has consented to donate the individual's organ(s).
 - a. The Health Services Manager/designee will notify the Donor Referral Line at 1-888-266-4466, giving past medical history, cause of death, and contact information for the nearest living family member or legal representative, if known.
3. The Department will not assume financial responsibility for the cost of the organ donation or transplant process.

II. Blood Donations

- A. Blood donations by individuals during incarceration will only be allowed in the following situations on a case-by-case basis:
 1. Medical authority indicates that the individual is the sole source of blood for an immediate family member in need, as defined in RCW 72.09.015, or
 2. Blood donation for an individual scheduled for surgery through an autologous (i.e., obtained from the same individual) blood transfusion, when consistent with the Washington DOC Health Plan and recommended by the attending surgeon.



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- B. The Department will not assume financial responsibility for the cost of a blood donation that is not medically necessary for the individual.
 - 1. Costs will be handled per DOC 600.020 Offender-Paid Health Care.
- C. Individuals who donate will be required to sign a statement provided by the blood center or hospital indicating they understand the possible dangers of donating blood.
- D. The Department will assist in any necessary preliminary medical evaluations if they can be performed with minimal expense.

DEFINITIONS:

Words/terms appearing in this policy may be defined in the glossary section of the Policy Manual.

ATTACHMENTS:

None

DOC FORMS:

DOC 13-311 Health Care Directive