



2043 Dillingham Boulevard
Honolulu, HI 96819-4024
Phone: (808) 845-9966
Neighbor Islands: (800) 372-9966

Dillingham Donor Center*

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri	6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday	9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Saturday	6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Sunday	Apheresis only

Apheresis by appointment, seven days a week.

Young Street Donor Center*

Tuesday	11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday - Saturday	6:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

* Last appointment 45 minutes prior to close.

www.BBH.org

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Blood Bank of Hawaii

Circulate

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SPECIAL EDITION



Blood Bank of Hawaii

Give Blood.

It's Safe.

It's Simple.

It Saves Lives!

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Did You Know?
We Love Tattoos

UDHQ and You

Just when you thought you had all the questions memorized and the blood donation registration process on automatic...

We are pleased to announce as of April 1, 2014, Blood Bank of Hawaii (BBH) will be implementing the Uniform Donor History Questionnaire (UDHQ). This new form simplifies the first step of the donation process and is the foundation for more streamlined and electronic versions in the future.

The Questions

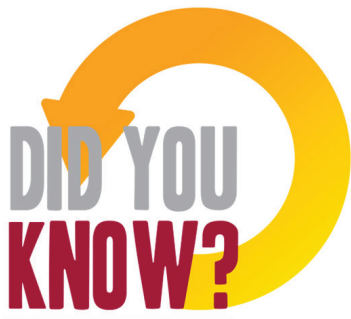
The UDHQ is 100% self-administered and easier to understand. You will only be asked questions to ascertain if you are healthy and feeling well on the day of donation and you meet the regulatory requirements.

Questions are short, clear, and concise, focusing on one risk factor at a time and being asked in chronological order. Since we respect your honesty, we will no longer ask you questions aloud and will only review any unexpected answers. You won't have to provide your complete medical history, comprehensive list of medications, or explain if you are under a doctor's care. You will only be asked to provide additional information if it pertains to your eligibility to donate blood.

The questionnaire also helps assess risk factors for transfusion-transmissible diseases, which tests are not sensitive enough to catch and/or are not available. Your accuracy is key to safety for you, the blood donor, as well as for blood recipients.

Prior to UDHQ, you were asked to place a sticker on the donor history questionnaire stating whether or not we should use your blood for transfusion at the end of your medical history. The goal of this process was to allow donors who did not feel comfortable answering all our questions to confidentially "opt-out" of having their blood used for transfusion. Many studies have shown that the use of these stickers did not increase the safety of the blood supply. Because we respect the honesty and accuracy of your answers to our questionnaire, the use of these stickers has been discontinued.

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Got ink? Whether you call it body art, ink or tattoos– it is no longer a reason you can't donate blood. Tattoos no longer require a wait period if they were done in a state that regulates tattoo shops. Good news... here in Hawaii tattoo shops are registered and regulated.

If you were tough enough to withstand a needle to make a statement, why not do so to save lives? Spread the word. BBH welcomes tattoos.

Effective April 1, 2014





Timely Matters

In an effort to conserve resources and provide you with more timely information, future issues of Circulate will be sent via e-mail. The only time you will receive Circulate in the mail will be for special editions with breaking news, such as this one.



Please be sure we have your e-mail address so you get the latest updates. It's easy... call, go online or update when you donate.

Call 848-4770

Visit www.BBH.org

Many Hands

BBH staff and board members greeted community supporters, donors and blood recipients featured on the bloodmobile at its blessing ceremony in mid-January at Matson headquarters. All present shared their positive thoughts and energy by placing their hands on the bus. It worked as the blessing was followed by a very successful inaugural blood drive.



Luck of the Draw

The Vegas lights will soon shine in the eyes of lifesaver Emmanuel Kaai and his wife, Janyne. She is especially excited about the trip since she was trying to win through a different promotion to see Celine Dion. Luck turned in their favor when he donated on the last day of The Ultimate Gift promotion. Let's hope that luck continues in Vegas!



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Evolution of Eligibility

Medical research and technology continue to change the face of health care. Blood banking is no different. As more research becomes available, blood donation eligibility requirements evolve and adapt with the leadership and approval of Food & Drug Administration (FDA). Thanks to medical research and the diligence of FDA, Blood Bank of Hawaii is pleased to welcome donors following the new eligibility requirements approved to be safe for donors and patients, effective April 1, 2014.

Heart Conditions and Stroke

Research has shown it is safe for people who have had heart surgeries, heart attacks, pacemakers, and irregular heart rhythms to donate blood if they are otherwise healthy and feeling well on the day of donation. The same is also true if you have mild-to-moderate lung disease or if you have had a TIA (transient ischemic attack or mini-stroke) or stroke.

Cancer

Medical research has also shown that cancer is not spread through blood transfusion. Therefore, if you had cancer, other than blood or bone marrow types (leukemia and lymphoma), completed treatment, and have been cancer-free for one year or more, you would be eligible to donate blood. This includes melanoma, which previously resulted in a permanent deferral. This is great news for grateful cancer survivors who want to give back out of thanks for the blood they received during cancer treatment.

Autoimmune Disorders

Medical research has also determined that autoimmune disorders (lupus erythematosus, multiple sclerosis, Sjogren's syndrome, scleroderma, etc.) or their symptoms are not spread through blood transfusion. As long as you are without symptoms, otherwise healthy, and feeling well on the day of donation you are capable of making a life-saving donation.

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The Donor Education Materials

When you check-in for your appointment, you will be given Blood Donor Education Materials as part of the UDHQ. Please be sure you read this as it provides information which will help you understand and answer the questions on the questionnaire. The handout includes definitions, a list of countries for European and United Kingdom (UK) travel, and medications, which would cause a deferral.

Highlights of Eligibility Changes

	Old	New
Cancer (except for leukemia and lymphoma)	Accept if: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Completed treatment with no recurrenceCancer-free for 5 years or more, not including melanoma	Accept if: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Completed treatment with no recurrenceCancer-free for 1 year or more, including melanoma
Tattoos	1 year waiting period	Accept if performed at a state-regulated tattoo shop
Heart Conditions or Stroke	Permanent deferral	Accept if seen by a physician and have at least 3 months with no symptoms or activity restrictions
Lung Conditions	Many were permanent deferrals	Accept if no symptoms and feeling well on day of donation
Autoimmune Disorders	Permanent deferral	Accept if no symptoms
Medication	Most medications were acceptable. Deferrals were usually based on why you were taking the medication and not the medication itself.	A few medications result in a deferral. See the complete list of these medications on BBH.org

If you are currently deferred and think you may be eligible under the new criteria, please call **848-4745**. You will be asked relevant information to complete your request for an eligibility review. You will be notified within six weeks if you are able to start saving lives again.

Tattoos

Good news for donors who get tattoos in Hawaii. Tattoos are now acceptable if applied by a state regulated entity with sterile needles and ink which has not been re-used. More than 30 states qualify, including Hawaii. Traditional Polynesian tattooing using reusable bone needles will still have a one-year wait period.

For a complete listing of eligibility requirements and interesting blood information, visit BBH.org.

The Future

UDHQ is approved by Food & Drug Administration (FDA) and is possible because of updated medical research and knowledge. Many blood centers across the mainland have implemented the use of UDHQ and it has become the standard of practice, leading the way for future advancements such as electronic (eDHQ) and abbreviated (aDHQ) versions.



Who knew blood could be so fascinating? The more you learn, the more interesting it is to see how you can best help patients. Technology makes more possibilities than ever.



Sherry Bracken, Hawaii Public Radio, LAVA 105.3 FM and KKOX 107.7 FM on Hawaii Island