

## State of Wisconsin • DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

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## Wisconsin Taxpayers Have New Option for Organ Donation

Madison, WI – Wisconsin taxpayers interested in becoming organ donors can add their names to the Wisconsin Donor Registry when filing their taxes — a new option in 2025.

Following the passage of Wis. Stat. § 157.06 (2023) by Governor Evers, the Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) added an Anatomical Gift (Organ & Tissue Donor) Registration option to Schedule 3, Part II of the Wisconsin state income tax return. Wisconsin taxpayers who wish to add their name as a potential donor can check the appropriate box on their return to be added to the Wisconsin Donor Registry. If filing a joint return, their spouse may sign up, as well. The move is an effort to boost the number of registered organ donors in Wisconsin and narrow the gap between supply and demand.

"We hope that adding this quick and easy way for Wisconsinites to document their decision to save and heal lives will grow the donor registry and bring hope to the more than 1,400 adults and children in our state awaiting lifesaving organ transplants," said Holly Thomas, president of Donate Life Wisconsin. "We encourage Wisconsinites to continue to sign up as donors when they file or when renewing their driver's licenses. This swift and simple 'yes' is easy, secure and lifesaving."

Through the end of February, 24,608 Wisconsin taxpayers and spouses have checked the box to become organ donors. Their generosity has a profound impact; one organ donor can save up to eight lives and help 75 others. Families of donors can take comfort knowing their loved one's legacy will continue long after they are gone.

To qualify, individuals must be Wisconsin residents who are at least 15 years of age or emancipated minors. Anyone who meets these criteria can become an organ donor regardless of heath history. Their gift will be used to help others through transplantation, therapy, research, or education.

Potential donors may also register online at <u>DonateLifeWisconsin.org</u> or through the <u>National Donor Registry</u> Program.

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