

scattered at sea or scattered in a cemetery, depending on where the body was assigned for study. The ashes are not returned for private disposition, and no notification of final disposition will be sent to the family.

PathServe will cremate the body when finished with it and scatter the ashes. Cremated remains may be returned to the family within one to two weeks, upon request.

More Information

If you live in other areas of the country, contact your closest medical school.

Or you may contact the National Anatomical Service, which has been in business since 1975 of procuring and transporting cadavers for various medical schools. NAS is aware of the schools with the greatest need. Call them anywhere in the U.S. at 1-800-727-0700. Headquarters are in New York, and they cover the phone 24 hours a day.

Arrangements for refrigeration will be made by the service with a local mortuary until transportation is provided. In some cases, the medical school pays storage and transportation costs. In other cases, the family may be asked to pay from \$150 to \$600, depending on the distance to be shipped.

For those who live in a state with no medical school (Alaska, Delaware,

Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming), or in states where all medical schools require prior enrollment (Arizona, Nebraska, Nevada, South Carolina, and Wisconsin), this service will be of benefit to next-of-kin wishing to make a body donation. You might advise relatives of this option in case the medical school of your choice is in no need at the time of your death.

International shipping of scientific cadavers is not allowed. (But bodies can be shipped privately if placed in a hermetically sealed container.) If you should die while abroad, your family might arrange for a medical school overseas to accept your body, as their need for bodies there might even be greater than in the U.S. For example, in Argentina 200 medical students must share a cadaver. Tell your family if you wish them to consider this option.

The national Funeral Consumers Alliance office has "Uniform Donor Cards" which you can fill out stating your wishes. Phone them for a copy at 1-800-765-0107.

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Whole Body Donation in the Bay Area

A Gift to the Future



Why Donate My Body?

Donating your body to a medical school helps provide essential training for medical students.

Donating your body to a research institution can help surgeons to develop and improve surgical techniques and can assist in the development of life-saving medicines and surgical procedures.

Whole Body Donation is the least expensive option for the disposition of human remains.

What Is Required to Donate My Body?

Whole body donation must generally be pre-arranged by the donor before death. Your family may be able to choose this for you after you die. See the links below to obtain further information and forms from the various entities that accept whole body donations in the Bay Area.

There is no maximum age for a body to be accepted, but a variety of conditions may make the body unacceptable. So be sure to have a Plan B. Some of the reasons a body may not be accepted:

- Accident or suicide has caused too much damage to the body
- All body parts are not present (you cannot donate both organs and your whole body)
Amputation does not always preclude acceptance, however.

- Extreme obesity
- Infectious diseases, such as hepatitis, HIV, tuberculosis
- The institution already has plenty of bodies

Who Will Take My Body?

The following institutions will accept pre-arranged body donations:

Stanford University School of Medicine
John Dolph or Johnella Stevick Willed Body Program, Div. of Anatomy
Stanford, CA 94305
(650) 723-2404

med.stanford.edu/anatomy/contact.html

University of California, San Francisco
Department of Anatomy, AC-14 San Francisco, CA 94143-0902
(415) 476-1981
willedbodyprogram.ucsf.edu/

University of California, Davis
Donated Body Program Curator
(916) 734-9560

<https://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/cell/bio/donatedbodyprogram/DBPinfo@ucdavis.edu>

Costs

With **Stanford Medical School** Anatomy Department, there is no cost to the deceased's family except the cost of death certificates, if the person died within 75 miles. If death occurs beyond 75 miles, the family or estate pays the cost of transportation. Stanford contracts with a local funeral home to transport the bodies and prepare the death certificates.

UC San Francisco will transport bodies at no charge if death occurs in Northern California. Families will be responsible for transportation charges if death occurs elsewhere.

UC Davis will pick up the body within a 50-mile radius, but beyond that the next-of-kin will need to pay a mortuary to transport the body. UC Davis will bear the cost of cremation when they are through with the body

PathServe pays all expenses for transporting the remains from the place of death to the Center and will provide two copies of the death certificate to the family.

At present, it is illegal to pay for bodies, and penalties are severe for any infractions.

What Happens When They Are Through with My Body?

After the body is used for medical instruction or research at Stanford, it is cremated, and the ashes are buried at Alta Mesa Cemetery in Palo Alto without a marker. Or, if the family wishes, the ashes can be returned to them. Stanford Medical students have an annual memorial service to honor the people who donated their bodies to further their medical education.

At UCSF, after studies are completed, generally around one to three years, the remains are cremated and either