



How can I become an Egg Donor?



GENETICS & IVF
Institute

Life begins at GIVF

Women Helping Women

Imagine how you would feel if you were ready to start a family but were faced with medical problems that made conception difficult or even impossible. Women and couples yearning for a child face an enormous emotional impact when they discover that there are barriers to their ability to conceive. However, with today's proven reproductive assistance techniques it is still possible for a woman to achieve a pregnancy—due to the invaluable contributions of egg donors.

Apply to be a GIVF Egg Donor

We recruit and screen our own candidates because we are committed to a high level of personal care, compassion, and skilled medical treatment of all of our donors. We view each of our donors as an individual and we are attuned to your concerns. If you are accepted into our egg donor program, we recognize that you provide a service urgently needed by GIVF patients. The basic qualifications include:

- Between the ages of 19 and 32
- A resident of the greater Washington DC or Philadelphia area
- College degree, advanced degree, or pursuing a degree
- Good family health history
- Body mass index not exceeding 27%
- Interest in arts, sciences, or athletics
- Responsible, ready to meet the requirements of the program

How to Apply

First, fill out our initial online application that can be found and submitted on www.123donate.com. If you have questions you can email us at eggdonor@givf.com or contact us at **(703) 698-3909** any weekday.

For those without Internet access, we would be happy to mail an application for your convenience; just call our main contact number.

This initial application is to ensure that each applicant meets the basic requirements of the program. If you do meet the basic requirements, you will be asked to complete and submit our full application, which will consist of medical and personal information for both you and several of your relatives, including parents, siblings, children, aunts/uncles, and grandparents on each side of your family. Please be aware that the full application must be completed and submitted completely online. Your family medical history will be reviewed by our Clinical Geneticist to ensure each applicant's clinical qualifications.

If you qualify, we will contact you to set up a time to meet with us so that we may give you a detailed description of what is involved in program participation—including the screening and donation process. At this meeting we will be able to answer any questions you may have.

Frequently Asked Questions

What happens during the screening process?

Each donor will be required to have a physical examination, a psychological evaluation with a Clinical Psychologist, as well as infectious and genetic disease screening. The genetic and infectious disease testing is very extensive and implements the most advanced technology available today. All of the necessary appointments will either be arranged for you or performed on site at our facilities. You will not be responsible for paying any associated out-of-pocket costs.

What types of medications will I be taking?

You will be taking medications by self-administered injections, just under the skin. It's something anyone can quickly learn to do. You attend a class given by one of our nurses prior to the donation to understand how to mix and administer these medications. If you have any reservations about administering the injections to yourself, you may elect someone to help you and take the class with you. The medications include Lupron (suppresses your natural hormones), FSH (promotes stimulation of multiple follicles), and hCG (a "trigger" medication that promotes final maturation of eggs).



GIVF donors give the gift of life

“I look forward to being able to help another couple have a child.”

Egg Donor

How long does the donation process take?

The donation cycle will take approximately four weeks. During the last two weeks you will need to come in for regular 30-minute appointments (blood draws and sonograms) to check the progress of maturation throughout the cycle. On average, you will be here for 6-8 visits during that 14-day period. To work around your schedule as much as possible, the appointments are from 7:00-9:00 AM weekdays and 7:30-9:00 AM on weekends and holidays.

What side effects will I feel?

Side effects of the Lupron injections can mimic menopausal type symptoms, which can include headaches, hot flashes, or moodiness. Side effects of the FSH injections can mimic PMS type symptoms, which can include bloating, cramping, breast tenderness, and moodiness.

How are the eggs retrieved?

The egg retrieval is performed under light intravenous sedation here in our office. The eggs are retrieved trans-vaginally and under the guidance of ultrasound. A small needle is guided back through the vaginal wall in order to enter into the ovaries. The physician then carefully drains the fluid from each follicle and collects the egg inside. This

procedure takes approximately 15-20 minutes. While under sedation, you should be comfortably asleep and should not feel or remember anything.

What will I feel after egg retrieval?

You may experience some mild cramping, spotting, and bloating in the few days following the procedure.

What is the compensation?

Due to the dedication, time and effort required by participating in this program, you will be adequately compensated for each cycle that you complete. The compensation begins at \$6,000, which you receive on the day of egg retrieval.

What are the risks involved?

As with any medical procedure there are risks involved. *Unwanted pregnancy:* During the time of the donation cycle you will be very fertile, so donors should always use protection if having intercourse. Abstinence, of course, is the best prevention. *Infection:* The risk of infection is less than 1%. This risk is involved with the retrieval process; however, to help lower the risk even further, donors are provided with an antibiotic to take for several days following the retrieval process. *Ovarian Hyperstimulation Syndrome (OHSS):* Occasionally excess fluid from the ovaries can shift and begin

to collect in the abdominal cavity, causing an uncomfortable, bloated feeling. If there should be a significant amount of fluid build-up, the excess fluid is removed in a procedure very similar to egg retrieval. Most often this is not necessary and the body will slowly re-absorb the fluid over the course of the next seven days. The risk of OHSS is 1-2% but is very treatable, very manageable and should not cause any long-term effects.

Is the program confidential?

All donor information is completely confidential. Donor files are coded to assure confidentiality of information and access to files is restricted. Your identity is not revealed to any recipient, nor would the identity of any recipient be disclosed to you. Your confidentiality is ensured.

Will I be able to have my own children after participating?

According to medical information and studies to date, egg donation does not appear to have any long-term effects on your fertility.



“We cannot truly express our gratitude to our donor. After years of infertility treatments, disappointments and miscarriages, a donor egg was our only chance of creating a family. We’re expecting a baby girl in about 5 weeks. I will be thankful for this gift in my heart every day for the rest of my life.”

Donor Egg Recipient



“I feel so grateful that donors are willing to help women like me who otherwise couldn’t have this opportunity to have a child. Without these amazing donors my husband and I would not be able to have our dream come true. We can’t thank you and the donors enough.”

Donor Egg Recipient



GENETICS & IVF
Institute

www.123donate.com

3015 Williams Drive
Fairfax, Virginia 22031
(703) 698-7355
(800) 552-4363