



TASC Endorsed Program Request



Board of Directors Policy Regarding Endorsements and/or Partnerships

Programs/projects that complement the mission and purpose of student council may be considered by the Board for an endorsement/partnership. Programs or projects interested in forming a partnership with TASC must demonstrate in writing the ways in which the program enhances the work of or provides a resource to student councils. Programs/projects sponsored by member schools are preferred. The Board will approve this type of relationship at the summer board meeting. The board may determine to limit the number of endorsed programs. These relationships benefit TASC member schools directly, either by providing a resource to the council or to individual students. Endorsed programs often exhibit at TASC events and present at TASC events. Benefits to an endorsed program/partner may include access to member schools' data for marketing, inclusion in conferences through presentations and reduced exhibit rates, a link on the TASC website, and inclusion in the TASC Resource Guide. Relationships are established by a board vote and are renewed annually. Existing programs must demonstrate participation by and benefit to schools and justify the continuation of the relationship in writing.

Indicate if this is a new or continuing partnership	Continuing
Name of Organization/Program	Donate Life Texas
Primary Contact Information	
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Secondary Contact Information	
Name	Michelle Ramirez/ Susana Thornbrough
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Mission/Purpose of Organization	Donate Life Texas (DLT) is the state's official organ, eye, and tissue donor registry, as established by the Texas State Legislature in 2005. DLT empowers Texans to officially record the lifesaving decision to be an organ, eye, and tissue donor after death. DLT provides community outreach programs to educate Texans about the critical need for donation and the importance of donor registration.
How does your mission align with the goals/purpose of Texas Student Councils? (See About Us tab at www.tasconline.org.)	Organ, eye, and tissue donor registration is a critical lifesaving cause that is open to all Texans and promotes civic responsibility and compassion for others. The activities associated with promoting organ donor registration provide excellent opportunities for students and groups to learn and share important knowledge, develop leadership and planning skills,

	educate and influence others in their community in measurable ways that do not rely on making a monetary ask. Efforts here will increase the number of registered donors across Texas which gives lifesaving hope to the approximately 11,000 Texans currently awaiting a lifesaving organ transplant and more than 100,000 waiting nationally.
Describe in detail the process for TASC member school participation in this program.	Participation by each school can be tailored by the Student Council and school administration to best meet the needs and parameters of the environment. Possible elements of participation can include: • Host a donor registration webinar / booth / table / campaign at/with the school or local events. • Contact other schools or local companies and businesses to create a Donor Registration Challenge (some groups / schools hold competitions). • Present organ, eye & tissue donation information during an assembly or in health / science classes – available to provide virtually. • Design social media graphics, posters, flyers, and other materials to promote donor registration. • Meet / Speak with donor families / transplant recipients in their community to learn more about their experience – available virtually. • Ability to speak with transplant centers at an area hospital to learn about the transplant process and speak with those who are waiting. • Ability to speak with an organ, eye and tissue recovery organization in their area to learn about the recovery and donation process. • Contact local officials about proclamations declaring a Donate Life Donor Registration Day or Month in their community. • Send press releases about their school's campaign to local media. Donate Life Texas and its members will provide training materials for each council and help connect them with appropriate resources such as Donate Life speakers and/or volunteers in their community. A standard kit of educational materials will be provided for each participating school and will include printable / emailable fliers, info sheets, registration drive ideas and social media graphics. Schools can choose to create customized donor registration campaign pages using the tools on the DLT website. Those who do so will be able to track the number of registrations recorded by their campaign.
What is the benefit of this partnership to the TASC organization as a whole, its member schools or individual advisors/students?	Partnering with Donate Life Texas is beneficial in terms of the program support it can provide and the positive public perception the issue of donation enjoys. It is also uniquely inclusive in a way that other causes and activities may not be. Anyone can be a donor and the need for organs cuts across all demographics. Unlike some activities, donor registration does not rely on fundraising from participants. Donor registration is free and takes only a few minutes for individuals to complete regardless of age, gender, economic status, health, faith, or ethnic and cultural background.
What is the benefit of this partnership to your organization?	Nearly 11,000 Texans are awaiting organ transplants and thousands more need a lifechanging tissue or cornea transplant. Registering more people helps make more organs and tissues available for those whose lives hang in the balance. Registering more people relies heavily on public education at the grassroots level. By engaging young leaders with this issue, we hope

	not only to host registration drives but also to spark the powerful, lifelong conversations among friends and family that will have even further-reaching effects.
Is there a fee for TASC schools to attain resources or participate in the program	No
Does participation in this program require student fundraising of any type?	DLT currently prefers to focus activities on registration and education. However, schools that choose to raise funds can channel them into their own activities supporting donor registration or to Donate Life Texas.
Is this program available to student councils statewide?	Yes
Describe in detail the resources available to TASC schools through this partnership.	Donate Life Texas and its members will provide training materials for each council and help connect them with appropriate resources such as Donate Life volunteers and member organizations in their community. A standard kit of educational materials will be provided for each participating school and will include printable / emailable fliers, info sheets, registration drive ideas and social media tools. Limited items may include rubber bracelets, buttons, stickers, and pens. Schools can choose to create customized donor registration campaign pages using the tools on the DLT website. Those who do so will be able to track the number of registrations recorded by their individual campaign.
Describe the plan for serving schools across the state of Texas.	Each participating school will be connected with the Donate Life Texas member organization in their area to initiate the program and receive training and resources. The program can be implemented by each school at their convenience throughout the school year.
Describe your intent to exhibit or present at the TASC Advisor Workshop in September, and the TASC Annual Conference in March. (Presentation topics must be submitted and approved prior to each conference. Endorsed programs are eligible for reduced fees for exhibiting. Forms are available under Exhibitors/Sponsors at www.tasconline.org.)	Donate Life Texas would be pleased to continue to participate in these conferences, should the opportunity still be available to us. Presentations cover an overview of the program described above, highlight updates to the program, touch on the training elements, and include a testimonial speaker – a donor family member or transplant recipient – to share their story. The Donate Life Texas display table at the conferences would allow participants to join the donor registry, ask questions and speak one-on-one with Donate Life Texas representatives. We thoroughly enjoyed the last TASC event in March in SA, TX and other conferences in the past. We intend to participate in upcoming TASC events in the coming year.

<u>Continuing Programs Only:</u> Provide data on the number of TASC schools that participated in this program in the previous year.	Since the beginning of our partnership: • 150 Schools have participated • More than 1,000 students/faculties have been educated annually about donor registration
<u>Continuing Programs Only:</u> Explain how TASC school/student participation has increased or changed since the partnership began.	DLT launched the online portal at the start of the 2016-17 school year, and we have had some helpful learning experiences since then. We have found the online portal pages are extremely valuable for councils to run their campaign. DLT's participation in the TASC Conferences helped students and faculty understand how to better use the online resources to create their own activities and campaigns. We were able to connect with students who have participated, new students and teachers. We plan to attend the TASC Workshop / Conference and would like to explore other conference opportunities where we can connect with faculty and students.
<u>Continuing Programs Only:</u> Describe any <u>new plans</u> for serving schools and student councils across the state of Texas.	We would like to work alongside TASC to learn ways we can better communicate with the Student Council groups throughout Texas. (example: Providing virtual and in-person presentations for Student Council groups, leadership classes, and campus organizations throughout Texas. Offering educational sessions during teacher in-service days and advisor trainings to equip educators with resources for integrating donation awareness into school activities. Lay the groundwork for the development and implementation of a Donate Life Texas lesson plan aligned with Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) standards. Expanding access to downloadable resources through the newly enhanced Donate Life Texas website and school portal, making it easier for schools to plan, promote, and report Donate Life activities. Developing a Student Council Toolkit (Unite4Life) that includes event guides, social media templates, promotional materials, and step-by-step instructions for hosting Donate Life awareness campaigns. These changes will make council DLT events even more professional and efficient.
<u>Continuing Programs Only:</u> Please share any suggestions you have regarding ways that TASC can add value to this partnership.	Donate Life Texas greatly values its partnership with TASC and appreciates the opportunity to connect with student leaders across the state. We believe TASC can add value to this partnership by helping increase awareness of available Donate Life Texas resources and opportunities through student council/advisor communications, conferences, workshops, and leadership trainings. Additional opportunities may include providing introductions to Student Council advisors and regional leaders, sharing Donate Life Texas educational materials through TASC communication channels, highlighting student-led Donate Life projects and success stories, share DLT Lesson Plan and exploring opportunities for Donate Life Texas to participate in leadership development events. We would also welcome collaboration on recognizing schools and student councils that demonstrate outstanding commitment to service and donation awareness initiatives. By working together, TASC and Donate Life Texas can empower student leaders to make a meaningful impact in their communities while promoting the lifesaving message of organ, eye, and tissue donation throughout Texas.

Thank you for your service to student councils, schools, and student leadership.