






# BENEFITS OF BEING A BLOOD DONOR

## CONTACT US

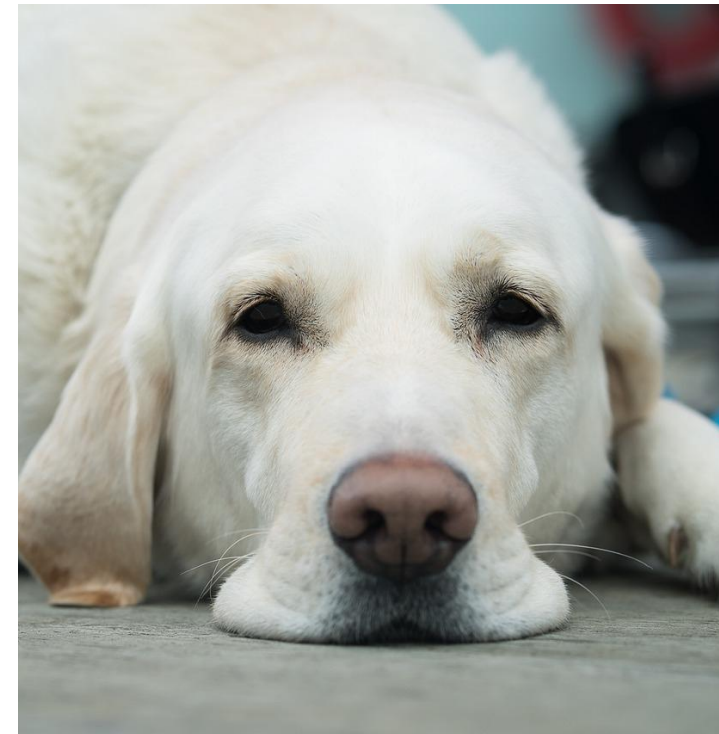
# BLOOD DONOR GUIDE

-  **\$25 credit**- towards services at EVS for each donation
-  **Free Exam**- each visit preformed by a veterinarian
-  **Free Blood Work**- full work-up annually, red blood cell count each visit
-  **Reduced cost of Echocardiogram**- if your pet ever is diagnosed with a heart murmur
-  **10% off Preventatives**- if purchased from EVS

**Your pet gets to be a hero and save the lives of other pets in need!**

**34 Van Gordon St.  
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**HOW YOUR PET CAN BECOME A HERO**

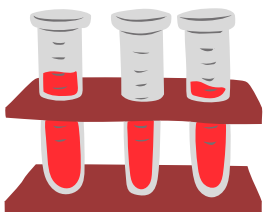
# HOW TO BE A DONOR

The initial screening happens through a **brief questionnaire about your pets' current and past medical history**. As long as there is nothing in your pets' history that may be harmful for them or other pets, we have you bring your pet in for a full screening.

A **physical exam** is performed by a veterinarian to ensure that your pet is in good overall health and look for any signs of illness. We perform **in-house blood tests** to make sure there are no systemic issues or contagious diseases your pet may have that can harm your pet or be passed through the blood during a transfusion. We **blood type** your pet to see if their blood type is compatible with our patients needs. After that, we run **several different blood panels** in hospital to evaluate the blood cells and the functions of different organ systems. If the in-house tests come back with normal values, we send out a larger blood panel to the lab to perform more specified tests to verify there are no blood parasites present. **This may sound extensive but it is at no cost to you and only requires a single, quick blood draw.**

While your pet is in the hospital, we **monitor their reaction to the staff and to the hospital environment**. It is important that you and your pet are feeling at ease with us and the process. Some pets are not comfortable enough to be blood donors. **We do not want your pet or you to be stressed or uncomfortable** and will go over options with you if they seem to be anxious.

Your pet is accepted into the program if the physical exam is normal, all laboratory tests are satisfactory and all involved are comfortable.



## Canine Requirements

- 1-8 years old
  - Weigh more than 50 lbs
  - Up to date on vaccinations + preventatives
  - In good health
  - Has a friendly disposition
  - Not on Raw diet
  - Not used for breeding
  - Never received a blood transfusion
- \*If your dog is on medication, ask if it is accepted\**



## Feline Requirements

- 1-9 years old
  - Weigh more than 10 lbs
  - Up to date on vaccinations
  - In good health
  - Has a friendly disposition
  - Lives indoors
  - Not on Raw diet
  - Not used for breeding
  - Never received a blood transfusion
- \*If your cat is on medication, ask if it is accepted\**

# DONATION VISTS

The entire donation process is very simple. Before every donation, a veterinarian performs a thorough **physical exam**. A **small amount of blood is collected to check their current packed cell volume**. This is to make sure your pet is not anemic and it is safe to collect blood. Sometimes low-dose sedative may be given with your permission to help them relax. Your pet will be **brought back to our blood donation room** where it is quiet and away from distractions or loud noises. Some pets feel more relaxed away from their owners, while others need their people with them for reassurance. We want what will be easiest on your pet.

Your pet is **placed on an exam table and positioned based on their comfort and safety**. Cats tend to be most comfortable wrapped in a towel, to help them with anxiety. A veterinary technician will hold your pet, while petting and talking to them to help them relax during the procedure. Hair is clipped from a small area of the neck and the skin is cleansed with an antiseptic. **Blood is collected** with a sterile needle from the jugular vein into a closed bag system. The collection time is generally **less than five minutes** and is relatively painless. Your pet will be fed in-hospital if they want. Most importantly, your pet will receive lots of pets and hugs to give them positive reinforcement. They will be **given fluids** under the skin to replace the volume of fluids that were donated. **This process altogether usually takes about 30-45 minutes.**

**Our main goal is for your pets continued good health and safety.** We also run yearly blood screenings at our cost to monitor your pets blood values. **If any abnormal values are found on your pets' blood work, a veterinarian will contact you and go over any of your questions.** All blood work will be faxed to your regular veterinarian so they can have copies for your pets permanent file.