



# CONSIDER DONATING BEFORE DISPOSING

While disposing of unused prescriptions is a vital step in preventing harmful use, billions of dollars worth of unused medication ends up in the trash every year.

Contact your state board of pharmacy to learn more about drug donation programs in your state. Several state programs will accept unused medications and sharps from out-of-state consumers.

You can also contact local organizations, such as animal rescues, your local health department, shelters, relief agencies, or religious institutions, to see if they accept medical donations.



As Much as  
**\$11 billion**  
in Unused Medicine  
Is Discarded Each Year

## What is accepted?

Many programs are seeking medicines to treat:



**Diabetes**



**Heart Disease  
High Blood Pressure**



**Cholesterol**



**Mental Health**



**COPD**



**HIV and Cancer**

*Unexpired medical supplies, new or gently used durable medical equipment, and biomedical devices are also accepted by many programs.*

Your prescription may be eligible for donation if it:



**is sealed/unopened**  
(in original manufacturer's packaging)



**will not expire for at least 5 months**



**is not refrigerated**



**is non-controlled**

## Prescriptions eligible for donation?

Keep reading for more information on how to be better prepared to donate.



### Check your state's regulations

If your state does not have a drug repository program, you still have options. For example, Iowa's SafeNetRX program accepts out-of-state donations.



### Fill out the required forms

Be prepared to provide general information, like your name and contact information, the date of the donation, your signature, etc. Additional details about each medication you are donating may be needed.



### Remove personal information from the packaging

Cover any personal information on the prescription label, like the patient's name or the prescription number, using a permanent marker.

**Be careful not to cover any information about the medication itself.** Pharmacists who review and sort these donations will need to see the drug name, expiration date, and dosage.



### Coordinate shipping or drop-off

Follow the specific program's instructions to either mail your donation or take it to a designated drop-off site.

Contact Your State Board of Pharmacy  
or local department of health

*to learn about organizations accepting medical donations in your state.*



- Animal Rescues
- Health Departments
- Relief Agencies
- Religious Institutions
- Shelters
- Other Local Organizations