

Dear Educator,

I'm pleased to share some exciting news: one of your students was recently identified through the Be The Match Registry® as a possible match for a patient in need of a life-saving marrow transplant.

As a next step, your student must undergo some additional testing to confirm that he or she is the best match for this patient. If identified as the best match, your student may go on to donate marrow or peripheral blood stem cells (PBSC) to someone with a blood cancer like leukemia and lymphoma, or other blood diseases. A marrow donation could be the only cure for this critically-ill patient.

If your student is the best match for this patient and goes on to donate, he or she will likely request flexibility in class attendance and special programs, or extensions on coursework. Please talk with your student to find solutions that allow the flexibility needed in this life-saving donation process.

The time commitment for donation – including appointments, physical exam and the collection procedure – generally takes 20-30 hours over a 4-6 week period. Your student may need to travel for appointments, or the donation date may change due to the condition of the patient. These are just a few of the factors that may affect the timing of donation, making schedule flexibility important for a successful donation.

Please speak with your student about the support needed during this life-saving journey as a volunteer donor. Ask your student about other ways your school can get involved with the mission of Be The Match, or visit [BeTheMatch.org/Support-the-Cause](https://www.bethematch.org/support-the-cause).

Sincerely,



Linda Abress
Vice President, Donor and Cord Blood Management Services
Be The Match®

About Be The Match

Be The Match Registry, operated by the National Marrow Donor Program®, is a registry of more than 11 million volunteer potential donors. Since 1987, Be The Match has facilitated more than 60,000 transplants throughout the world for patients with life-threatening diseases such as leukemia and aplastic anemia, as well as certain immune system and genetic disorders. For more information, visit [BeTheMatch.org](https://www.bethematch.org).