



12th Annual “Pint for a Pass” Blood Drive Give Life to the Community While Savings on Your Trip to the Fair!

The Big Fresno Fair and Central California Blood Center have teamed up again for the 12th consecutive year of the “Pint for a Pass” Blood Drive, which runs August 30th – October 15th, and is supported by CBS 47. During this time, anyone who donated blood at a Central California Blood Center donor center or mobile drive, received a “Buy One, Get One FREE” voucher for admission to the 2022 Big Fresno Fair, a special commemorative t-shirt (while supplies lasted!) and was entered-to-win concert and horse racing tickets.

This year’s “Pint for a Pass” Blood Drive kicked off with fanfare at a Special Launch Event held at the Fresno’s Fairgrounds’ Commerce Building. Things got started bright and early at 5 a.m. with corn dogs and kettle corn for donors, as well special concert ticket drawings every hour and it ran until 2 p.m. The results during our “Pint for a Pass” launch resulted with an outstanding total of 277 donors by the end of the day. The 6-week “Pint for a Pass” Blood Drive promotion goes until October 15th.

“Blood is something that cannot be manufactured...it must be given, which is why blood drives like this are so critical,” said Arax Martirosian, Director Marketing & Donor Recruitment, Central California Blood Center. “It helps us continue to build awareness of the importance of donating to encourage new and returning donors to come out, helping us meet the need of Valley hospitals so they can continue to save lives. We never think blood won’t be there when we need it, but the truth is if we don’t have donors, we don’t have blood.”

During the past 11 years, more than 97,000 pints of blood have been collected.. For every pint of blood, there is the potential to save up to three lives, which means in the last 11 years, the “Pint for a Pass” Blood Drive has potentially helped save up to 291,000 lives! The reason one pint can save up to three lives is because the Central California Blood Center’s state-of-the-art lab can separate one pint of blood into three different components: whole blood, plasma, and platelets.

While all blood is needed and welcome, Type O blood is routinely in short supply and in high demand by hospitals – both because it is the most common blood type and because Type O negative blood is the universal type needed for emergency transfusions. Don’t know your blood type? The easiest way to find out is donate blood! Visit www.donateblood.org for a list of donor centers and mobile drives.

The Central California Blood Center provides blood and blood products to hospitals in Fresno, Tulare, Madera, Kings and Mariposa Counties and must collect between 5,000 to 6,000 pints of blood a month to meet the needs of our Valley community. Blood donation takes less than one hour to complete and donors can give blood every eight weeks. Donors must be in good general health, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and be at least 18 years old (16 or 17 years old with written parental consent). Senior citizens are encouraged to donate, as there is no upper age limit.

Here are some fun facts about blood that will entertain you and make you think!

- In Japan, people often believe a person’s blood type is connected to certain personality traits. For example:



- Type A Blood: Like to keep things neat but can be stubborn and get stressed out easily. They value harmony with others.
- Type O Blood: Are outgoing, have leadership abilities, and are able to set the mood for groups of people. They tend to run late to events.
- Type B Blood: Are known for their creativity, have a strong sense of curiosity but can lose interest easily.
- Type AB blood: As a hybrid of Type A and Type B blood types, carriers have a mix of both personalities. They are often seen as dual-natured and complicated. For example, they are shy like A types, but also are outgoing like type B.
- Source: <https://www.tofugu.com/japan/japanese-blood-type/>

- Blood types are passed down from parents to children, just like other genes. A person can easily guess their blood type if they know their parent's type. However, the best way to know for sure is to donate!
 - Source: <https://www.disabled-world.com/calculators-charts/blood-chart.php>

- Specific food and exercises can be recommended depending on your blood type. Knowing your blood type can help determine your body's proper exercise and dietary routine for long term health.
 - Source: <https://obi.org/blood-donation/fun-facts/>

- People with Type A blood tend to have higher cortisol levels than those with other blood types. Cortisol is the stress-relieving hormone.
 - Source: <http://www.ba-bamail.com/content.aspx?emailid=29833>

- Those with Type O Blood are twice as likely to be bitten by mosquitos, while people with Type A blood are least attractive to mosquitos.
 - Source: <http://www.ba-bamail.com/content.aspx?emailid=29833>

- Only 18% of people in the U.S. have a negative blood type. Yet, when someone with a negative blood type needs blood, only another person with a negative type can save his or her life.
 - Source: <https://obi.org/blood-donation/scientific-facts/>