



Writing to Your Donor's Family: A Guide *From [Eye Bank Name]*

Writing to your donor's family is one of the most meaningful things you can do as a recipient. Many donor families say that hearing from recipients brings them comfort and joy — knowing that their loved one's gift made a real difference in someone's life.

If you're not sure where to start, that's okay; this guide is here to help.

What to include

You don't need to write a long letter. Even a few sentences can mean the world to a donor family. Here are some things you might consider sharing:

- A little about yourself — your age, where you live, your job, what you love to do
- How your vision was affected before your transplant and what life looks like now
- A specific moment or thing you've been able to see or do that you're grateful for
- What this gift has meant to you and your family
- A message of gratitude and acknowledgment of their loss

What to keep in mind

- Be yourself. There's no perfect way to write this letter — genuine and simple is always enough.
- You don't need to share your last name or any identifying information if you'd prefer to remain anonymous.
- Avoid including contact information like your phone number, email, or address in the letter itself. If you and the donor family both wish to make direct contact, [Eye Bank Name] can help facilitate that separately.
- You don't need to reference the specific medical details of your surgery.





If you're not sure how to start

Sometimes the hardest part is the first sentence. Here are a few ways to open:

- *"I have been thinking about how to write this letter for a while, and I want you to know how much your family's decision has changed my life..."*
- *"Words feel inadequate, but I wanted to reach out to say thank you..."*
- *"I was not told much about your loved one when I received my transplant, but I think about them often..."*

How to submit your letter

Once your letter is ready, [Eye Bank Name] will forward it to your donor's family on your behalf. [Insert submission instructions — mail, email, online portal, etc.]

If you have any questions or would like support in writing your letter, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at [insert contact information]. We are honored to help.

All correspondence is handled with care and confidentiality.

