

American Red Cross to Kick-Off Annual Blood Drive

The State College American Red Cross Donor Center is looking for generous blood donors to participate in this year's kick-off event.

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. – Have you ever wanted to make an impactful difference in the lives of others but have not known where to start? Donating blood at the upcoming annual American Red Cross Blood Drive, located at 135 S. Pugh St., on April 1 from noon to 5 p.m. might just be the best place. The event will feature free t-shirts and complimentary refreshments for those who decide to donate.

The [American Red Cross](#) in State College is a humanitarian organization that was first founded in Washington, D.C., by Clara Barton on May 21, 1881. It is most notably known for its nationwide disaster relief program that helps people pick up the pieces of their lives after they have been destroyed.

Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs a [blood donation](#) and one pint of blood donated can save up to three lives. When donating, a person can elect to donate whole blood or platelets. For whole blood donation, the blood donation process takes about 10 minutes. For platelet donation, the process takes a total of two hours.

Any healthy individual who is at least 16 and at least 110 pounds with high iron levels is welcome to donate whole blood. Anyone who is at least 17 years old and at least 110 pounds is welcome to donate platelets.

For more information on the American Red Cross, or how to sign up to become a blood donor for the event, call 800-733-2767 or visit the website: [State College Red Cross Blood and Platelet Donation Center](#).

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