In the U.S., it is estimated that over 100,000 people have sickle cell disease—most are of African descent and will require regular blood transfusions to help manage their disease.

Many individuals who are Black have unique protein structures on their red blood cells that make their donations the most compatible blood, with reduced risk of complications, to help patients with sickle cell disease.

Did you know?

Empowering youth to help patients with sickle cell disease.

The American Red Cross Sickle Cell Fighter High School Scholarship program is a student scholarship program that will reward schools that successfully collect blood from donors who are Black, supporting the goal of helping sickle cell patients by diversifying the blood supply, while also promoting access to, and diversity in higher education.

The top ten high schools in the country that host at least one blood drive and collect the most units from donors who self-identify as African American (minimum of 50) this school year, will be awarded a $5,000 scholarship.

How to get involved

Schedule Red Cross blood drives between July 1—June 30. If your school is one of the top ten high schools in the country with the most total productive units from Red Cross self-identified African American donors, the Red Cross will provide a $5,000 monetary award to be used for an educational scholarship at an establishment of higher education for a select recipient. Representatives from your school will determine the scholarship recipient based on Red Cross recommended criteria.

The scholarship will be awarded in the recipient's name to the institution of higher education that the student will attend. Scholarship recipients will be encouraged to continue to support the Red Cross by hosting blood drives while in college. The scholarship distribution process must be completed by the sponsoring high school. Forthcoming information will be provided to recipient schools.

By participating in the Sickle Cell Fighter High School Scholarship Program, your high school can help build a stronger community now, and for many years to come.

RedCrossBlood.org/SCFScholarship | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767

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