

Unrelated Donor: Search Costs

Search process

When a patient requires a transplant from an unrelated donor, a physician can request a free **preliminary search** of our Be The Match Registry to determine if there are potential matches.

Performed by	Donor search activity	Typical cost range	Description
NMDP/ Be The Match	Preliminary search	No cost	Returns a snapshot of potential matched unrelated donors and umbilical cord blood units
NMDP/ Be The Match	Formal search activation fee	\$1,100-\$2,500	One-time fee that covers the initiation of a patient's formal search profile
NMDP/ Be The Match	Donor management	\$5,000-15,000	Includes donor outreach, high-resolution HLA testing, health history screening, infectious disease testing and collection of samples for use by transplant centers
Transplant center	HLA typing	Determined by transplant center	Additional HLA typing of donor samples must be completed by transplant centers

To verify that potential donors or cord blood units match the patient, transplant center physicians can initiate a **formal search** to request further testing. A formal search includes a one-time activation fee plus additional costs for outreach and lab tests of potential donors and/or cord blood units.

Donor management costs include high-resolution Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA) typing requests, adult donor infectious disease testing and shipment of donor blood samples to a transplant center. These costs, however, **do not cover HLA typing that must be completed at the patient's transplant center**. Each patient's donor search is unique, and depending on the difficulty of the search, a transplant center may need to perform HLA typing on several potential donors, incurring costs for each. These costs vary among transplant centers.



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EXAMPLE >

This is for illustrative purposes only; each situation is unique.

A patient is referred to a transplant center with a life-threatening disease, such as acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Because they do not have a sibling match, the transplant center physician requests a free **preliminary search** of the Be The Match Registry, which identifies several potential matched unrelated adult donors and cord blood units.

The physician activates a **formal search** by requesting specific high-resolution typing on a small number of adult donors who have a high likelihood of matching, as well as HLA typing on a few partially matched cord blood units. The transplant center is charged a one-time **formal search activation fee** and **typing costs** for those donors willing and medically eligible to proceed to donation.

After receiving typing results, the physician requests a few select donors to have fresh blood samples drawn for infectious disease testing and additional HLA testing at the transplant center. The transplant center is charged a **donor management fee** for donor health screening, drawing and shipping fresh blood samples and performing infectious disease testing.