



Donors to Receive Inspiring T-shirt during February 5-6 Blood Drive at SWOSU

Southwestern Oklahoma State University will sponsor a blood drive on Monday and Tuesday, February 5-6, on the Weatherford campus, and because of the recent flu epidemic affecting Oklahoma, giving blood right now is so important, according to Oklahoma Blood Institute officials.

The public is invited and encouraged to participate in the drive, which will be held from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. each day in the Wellness Center on the SWOSU campus.

Donors will receive their choice of a new, trendy t-shirt in one of three featured colors, "Strong" olive, "Bold" maroon or "Fearless" teal.

Donor requirements are healthy adults ages 16 and over. Even though most people just walk in, individuals can schedule an appointment online at osbi.org or by calling 1.877.340.8777.

OBI Account Consultant Emma Meyer said the flu epidemic is affecting the blood supply. Because so many of OBI's regular donors are ill or taking care of sick family members, they have been unable to give blood. Additionally, the widespread flu is forcing school closures. High schools account for about 20 percent of Oklahoma Blood institute's blood donations, and parents are unable to keep their blood donation appointments. All of this puts even more strain on the blood supply.

Blood donors who have been diagnosed with flu should wait seven days since their last symptoms to give blood. Donors may give blood the same day they receive a flu vaccine.

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