



hatch
Egg Donation & Surrogacy



**The ultimate guide to
egg donation**

The ultimate guide to egg donation

As a young woman pursuing egg donation, you have the opportunity to help families make their dreams into a reality that couldn't do so otherwise. There's no greater gift than helping a family who wants a child, and we cherish your generosity and caring heart.

Many questions come up along the egg donation journey, and this guide to egg donation is here to address your concerns. In working with the first egg donation agency in the U.S., you'll be supported every step of the way--from your initial application to returning cycles down the road.

But before we get too far ahead of ourselves, let's start with the basics: what egg donation is, and why women pursue this process!

In this guide, we'll cover:

- [What is egg donation?](#)
- [Benefits of egg donation](#)
- [Candidates for egg donation](#)
- [Egg donor screening](#)
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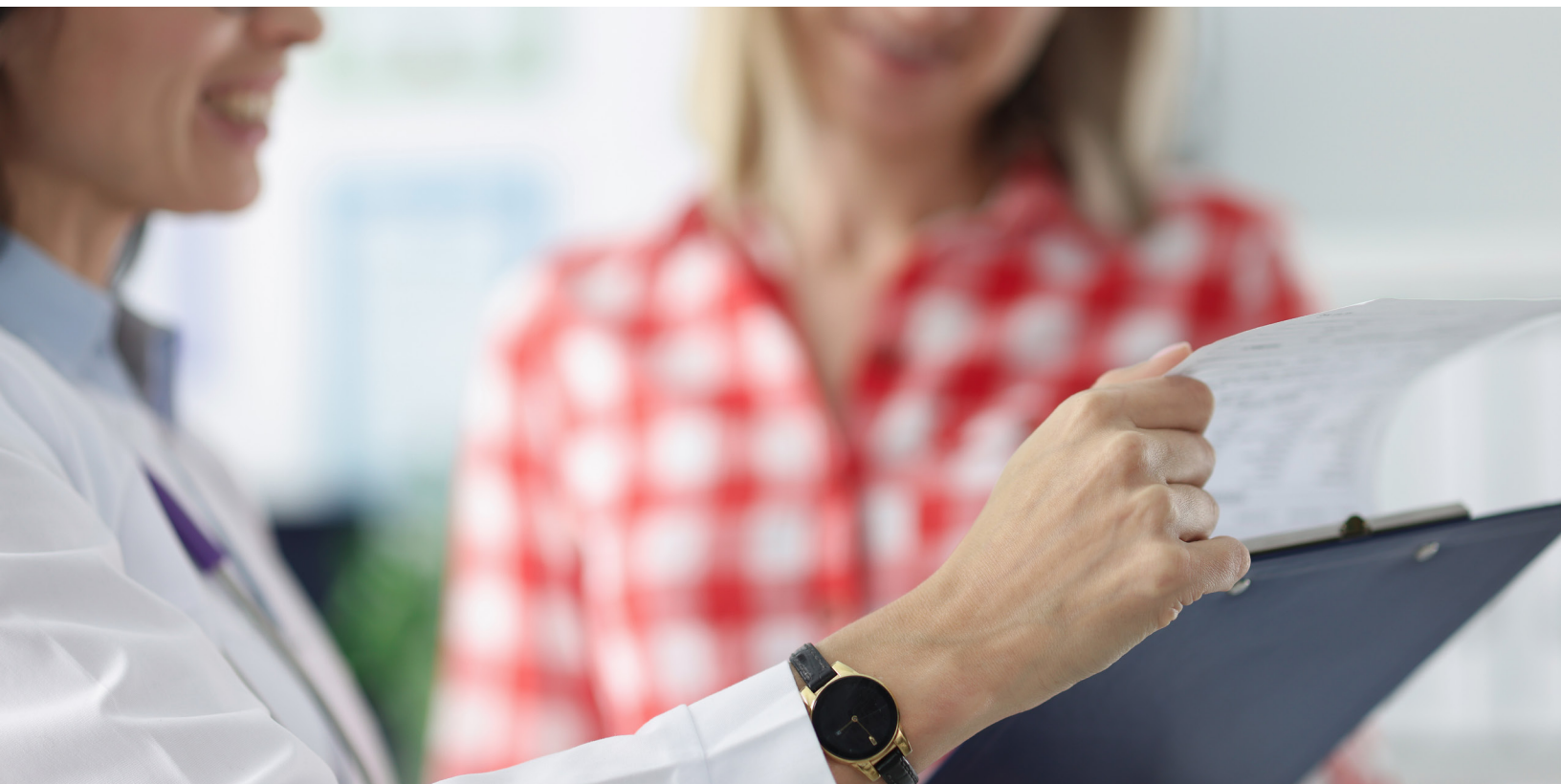
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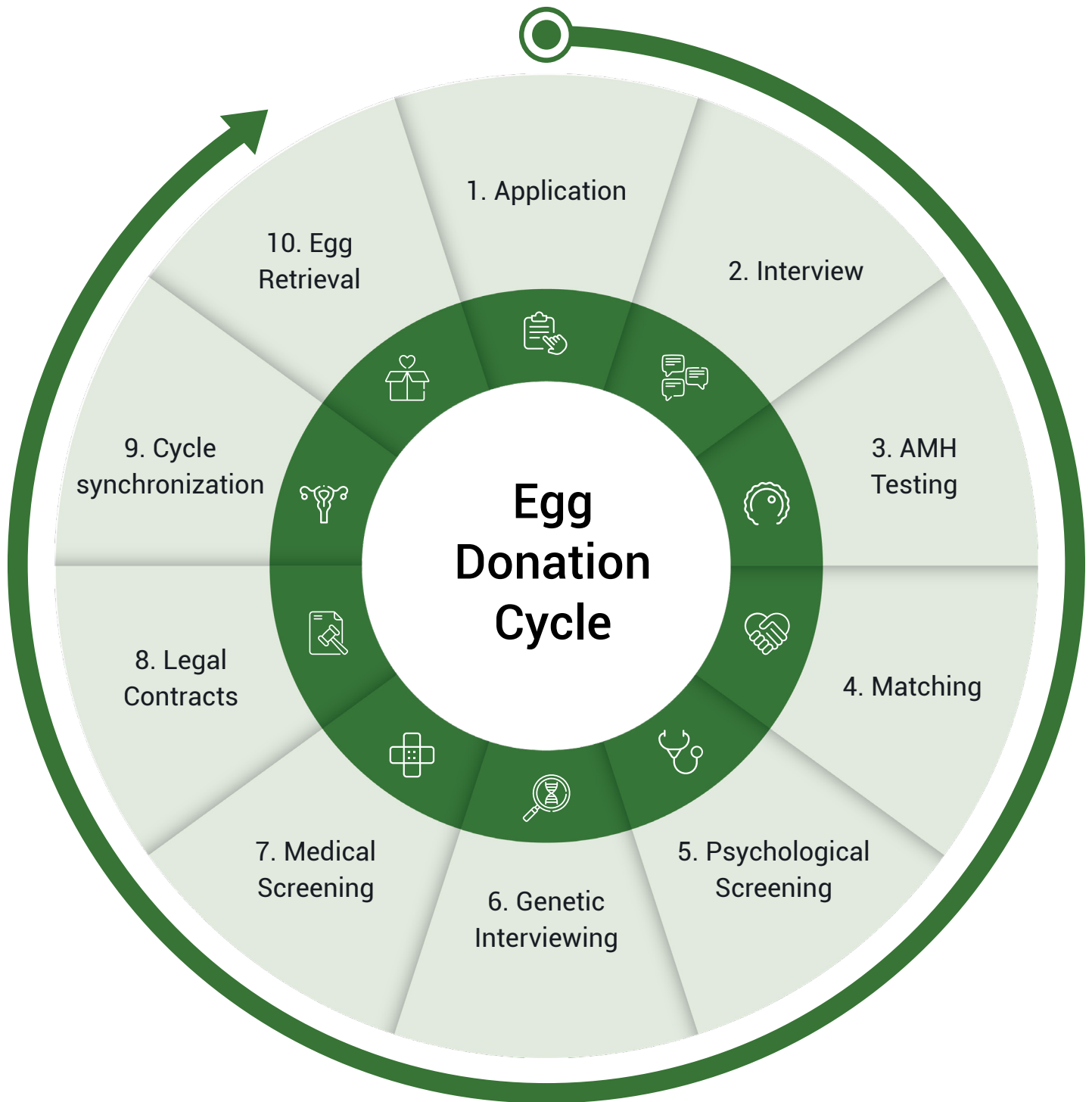
What is egg donation?

Simply put, egg donation is a journey women can pursue that allows intended parents who could not otherwise bring a child into their family.

Women are born with approximately 400,000 eggs and, during each menstrual cycle, the female reproductive system selects 30 or more eggs to mature for potential fertilization. During an egg donation cycle, increased doses of these egg-maturing hormones are offered so that additional eggs will mature (typically 8-15 more) for the egg retrieval procedure. Stimulated eggs that aren't extracted for egg donation would naturally pass out of the body during your menstrual cycle.

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The process: what a complete egg donation cycle looks like



The bigger picture: why women become **egg donors**

Though people assume most egg donors want to donate their eggs for monetary purposes, this couldn't be further from the truth. While compensation is certainly a great benefit for each donor's time, efforts, and literal self-giving, these women are altruistic and want to help others do what they can not do for themselves.

What was once relatively uncharted territory is now a common, empowering, safe practice for women worldwide. These donors who donate their eggs assist parents with fertility issues who are desperate to grow their families. There is no greater gift in life than of life itself. Paired with the best fertility doctors and IVF clinics, the process can be an easy and fulfilling experience.

Egg donors are strong, independent, generous, beautiful women who know of the blessings their **selfless act will induce**. When you become an egg donor, you complete a puzzle and change the lives of others forever.

There is nothing more powerful in this world than a woman who can help another family with their dreams of having a child. During the egg donation process, an egg donor will undergo fertility, genetic, and medical screenings. She will be in charge of the process and have say in the timeline for her donation.

These tests will educate a woman about her facility and her fertility. She will learn about her health and what she is capable of. This is empowering information for an egg donor that will be completely paid for her.

These screenings and genetic testing processes cost thousands of dollars. She will discover how viable her eggs are and how her follicles are doing.

She'll also learn what genetic carrier traits she has. She will walk out of the clinics knowing that she is healthy, fertile, and ready to change lives.

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Compensation as an egg donor

Egg donor compensation is a wonderful benefit for the altruistic acts you performed and varies by state and agency. When it comes to donating eggs, you'll be compensated through many thanks in addition to receiving a monetary amount to cover your expenses and whatever may have caused you a little discomfort or inconvenience during donation.

Most egg donation agencies compensate their donors with a starting fee of \$4,000 to \$5,000. At Hatch, our egg donors will receive anywhere between \$8,000 and \$10,000, with additional perks and rewards for traits and accomplishments such as:

- Higher education degrees
- Test scores
- Athletic ability
- Personal achievements
- Career
- Prior donation cycles (you can donate up to six cycles!)

Many donors use this amount to pay off student loans or pay down their existing debt, and others use their compensation to save for their plans and travel around the world. Your recipient parents are more than happy to compensate you for your generosity and contributions.

Candidates for recipient parents

Depending on your fertility goals, you can choose to receive a fresh or frozen egg donation transfer. During a fresh transfer, the patient undergoes endometrial preparation while the donor undergoes ovulation stimulation. Alternatively, in a frozen transfer, the patient receives embryos that have been previously frozen until the patient decides the time is right for transfer.

Egg donations are an excellent fertility service for:

- Women struggling with low or no egg production
- Women with poor egg quality
- Same-sex male couples and single males
- Trans and gender-fluid intended parents

When used in conjunction with a surrogate and IVF, same-sex couples and women who struggle to carry a pregnancy to term (or cannot do so for health reasons) can complete their family.



Egg donor qualifications

To become an egg donor with Hatch (and most egg donation agencies), you'll need to align with set requirements and qualifications. While not all of these requirements are set in stone, they're here to protect you, your recipient parents, and your agency.

At Hatch, we ask our egg donors to align with the following traits and qualities:

Age

- Egg donors should be between the ages of 19 and 30

Reproductive health

- Not currently using Depo-Provera
- You experience regular menstrual cycles
- No history of reproductive health problems
- Has both ovaries

Lifestyle

- Healthy, active lifestyle
- BMI between 19 and 26

Health

- No history of inherited genetic disorders
- Ability to take fertility medications
- Non-smoker
- No current use of drugs or excessive alcohol

Mental

- An open mindset
- Psychologically healthy
- Humanitarian motivation
- Dependable and mature

Once you apply to become an egg donor and you're accepted into a program, congratulations! You're now ready to proceed and start bringing life to another family.



Screenings

You'll undergo a rigorous screening process and receive the highest level of care from renowned physicians. These screenings include:

01 Social

The first stage of our egg donor screening process is social screening. We work closely with our egg donors, and we want to get to know them prior to adding them to our donor list. The social screening consists of a phone or in-person interview that lets us know more about potential egg donors. We discuss things like personal goals, hobbies, and future family plans. This is also an excellent time for donors to learn more about the medical process of egg donation and ask our team any questions about becoming an egg donor.

02 Psychological

Your emotional health is a top priority to our agency because we want you to be completely comfortable with egg donation so it's the life-affirming experience it's designed to be. We also offer careful screenings of mental illness and psychiatric disorders that a child could inherit. These screenings are led by a licensed mental health professional and are standardized with many questions.

03 Genetic

We'll review your family genetic history with Hatch's genetic screenings. This evaluation is conducted by a board-certified geneticist who will interview you over the phone to track your family history and write a comprehensive genetic history report. During this time, you confidentially disclose as much family history (and medical history) information as possible. You will also be tested for common genetic diseases when you are matched at your in-person medical screening.



04 Medical

You'll undergo two main types of screening: a Day 3 FSH test and medical testing. During your Day 3 FSH testing, you'll track your menstrual cycle even before you are chosen as an egg donor, and once chosen, notify your coordinator of the first day of your cycle when your period starts. On the third day of your menses, your ovulation levels will be tested by most doctors, a process which can be delayed by a month if not conducted precisely on this day. This test is driven by the treating IVF physician and consists of a blood test and possibly an ultrasound. Other medical testing will be provided by Hatch of FDA-required testings for infectious diseases. The following screenings apply to all egg donors. They include:

- Sexually transmitted diseases
- AIDS
- Hepatitis
- Urine Drug Screen
- Cystic Fibrosis Genetic Screening
- A vaginal ultrasound of the ovaries to count resting follicles.





The egg donation process

If you pursue egg donation, you'll be expected to have 4-8 appointments with your doctor. These are usually scheduled to be early mornings or occasionally on the weekend. If you're traveling during a cycle or if the reproductive office is a trek from your home, you can make 2-3 of these appointments at a nearby monitoring clinic for your convenience.

After being approved as an egg donor, you'll receive your initial screening at the doctor's office to ensure that you're in great health and ready for the donation process. Sometimes these visits occur on Day three of the menstrual cycle (the third day after bleeding begins).

During this appointment, you may receive:

- A blood test to test hormone levels
- Tests ruling out infection, sexually transmitted diseases, and major genetic disorders.
- A PAP smear (possibly requested in advance of medical screening from your OB)
- A urine drug screen
- A health & wellness interview conducted by your doctor

In addition, you'll take part in several ultrasounds that will be performed during the cycle to monitor the healthy growth of your eggs in your ovaries. This is a painless procedure that entails inserting a wand into the vagina to produce an ultrasound image so your doctor can analyze it.

If you're traveling during a cycle or if the reproductive office is a trek from your home, you can make 2-3 of these appointments at a nearby monitoring clinic for your convenience.

Fertility hormones & medications

Although there can be variations, at the beginning of the donation cycle, egg donors take birth control pills for about ten days to sync cycles with the individual receiving the egg transfer. After these ten days, egg donors receive a series of injections that follow this schedule:

- Lupron injections for ten days, which slow down the menstrual cycle

And injections administering one of the following fertility hormones for the next ten days following the completed lupron injection series:

- Gonal F
- FHS (Follicle Stimulating Hormone)

So for approximately two weeks, egg donors receive hormone injections administered with a small needle, often in the thigh or belly. Egg donors can give themselves the injections or have another adult assist them.

The egg retrieval procedure

Your eggs will mature after about two weeks of hormones. Once this happens, you'll return to your doctor's office for the egg retrieval procedure, which takes about 30 minutes. During the egg retrieval procedure, you'll be put under light sedation, and your eggs will be aspirated vaginally with a long needle to remove the possibility of scarring. Your doctor will perform the procedure under ultrasound guidance, similar to the vaginal ultrasound examination (follicular monitoring). After the eggs are retrieved, each follicle is then punctured, and the fluid (along with the egg floating in it) is aspirated. Once this fluid is sent to the laboratory, your embryologist searches for, isolates, and then freezes or fertilizes the eggs. Soon after the retrieval, you may go home accompanied by a friend. When you get home, we recommend that you take the rest of the day off work.



After your egg retrieval

10 to 15 minutes after the egg retrieval, you'll wake up from general anesthesia, and your dedicated nurse will monitor you in the recovery area. Depending on how you feel after, your nurses can provide you with pain medications as needed.

In most cases, you can leave an hour after the procedure or when your anesthesiologist discharges you. Before you go, your nurse will check up on you to ensure everything is okay and give you instructions on what to do when you arrive home.

You may feel some levels of discomfort for a few hours following the egg retrieval. To combat this, you can take Tylenol (acetaminophen) as needed every four hours. If you feel nauseous, this should dissipate within a few hours.

Some donors will notice a slight increase in their weight days after egg retrieval, usually resulting from water retention and other factors. However, if you gain more than five pounds, call your doctor immediately. 10 to 12 days after the egg retrieval procedure, you should start your period!

Upon request, egg donors may be informed about a month after the retrieval if a pregnancy occurred within the recipient parents or gestational carrier.

Egg donation brings new possibilities

Now that you've learned about the entire egg donation process, benefits and rewards, and how to prepare for your journey, we hope you look forward to this exciting adventure ahead.

At **Hatch Egg Donation and Surrogacy**, we not only supervise the cycles carefully and support our egg donors 24/7, but we are also consistently in touch with intended parents throughout the cycle. We make sure that our egg donors are cared for and looked after to give them the wonderful experience they deserve. Our egg donors also receive the highest compensation and the most meaningful emotional rewards for their cycles, including higher fees for returning egg donors.

We welcome you to become an egg donor and join our family of **SuperDonors**. Be represented by the most prestigious egg donor agency in the nation match with the perfect intended parents.

To begin your egg donation journey with Hatch, please visit <https://www.hatch.us/egg-donor-application> to get started!



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