

**Deceased Donor Kidney Allocation**  
**Policies Related to Pediatric Candidates**

Since continued dialysis may cause substantial developmental delays in children, candidates who are added to the waitlist before their eighteenth birthday are given additional consideration in kidney allocation. It is important to remember that transplant candidates are labeled as pediatric or adult when they are first placed on the waitlist. Candidates who are listed before their eighteenth birthday are considered pediatric. All other candidates are considered adults. This label does not change until the candidate is transplanted or removed from the waiting list.

Pediatric kidney candidates receive two types of priority:

1. Kidneys from donors who are less than 35 years of age are offered first to pediatric candidates.
2. Pediatric candidates *who are less than 18 years of age at the time a kidney match is run* receive additional points when offered a zero antigen mismatch kidney.

Kidney Candidate	Priority Given by Policy	Further Explanation
<p>0-17 years old when the <i>candidate is listed</i></p>	<p><b>Kidneys from donors less than 35 years old:</b> These kidneys will be offered first to candidates who were younger than 18 years old at the time they were placed on the list. Kidneys allocated for mandatory shares, highly sensitized candidates, renal/non-renal organ transplants, and prior living donors are an exception to this allocation process. (Policy 3.5.11.5.1)</p>	<p>Within each geographical classification (local, regional, national) and considering the exceptions noted, all candidates who were age 0-17 at listing will receive kidney offers from donors younger than 35 years old before any candidate who was listed on or after their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday receives an offer. This pediatric priority extends indefinitely until the candidate is transplanted.</p> <p>For example, the points, regional classifications for a kidney donor under the age of 35 are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional KI, Highest Scoring High CPRA</li> <li>• Regional KI, Pediatric</li> <li>• Regional KI</li> </ul> <p>If the donor’s age is 35 years or older, there is only one regional classification, “Regional KI,” for point allocation.</p>
<p>0-10 years old when the <i>match is run</i></p>	<p><b>Zero-antigen mismatch with a donor:</b> The candidate receives 4 additional allocation points. (Policy 3.5.11.5)</p> <p><b>Not a zero-antigen mismatch, with a donor less than 35 years of age:</b> The candidate receives 1 additional allocation point. (Policy 3.5.11.5.1)</p>	<p>A number of variables contribute to a candidate’s point total for kidney allocation (see Policy 3.5.11). The kidney allocation algorithm uses point totals to prioritize multiple candidates who are categorized in the same match run classification, with the highest point total receiving the first offer. These additional points for pediatric potential transplant recipients are no longer assigned once a candidate is 18 years old.</p>
<p>11-17 years old when the <i>match is run</i></p>	<p><b>Zero-antigen mismatch with a donor:</b> The candidate receives 3 additional allocation points. (Policy 3.5.11.5)</p>	