

# Frequently Asked Questions

## WHO CAN RECEIVE A WISH?

Children who have reached the age of 2 ½ and are under the age of 18 must be referred to Make-A-Wish® and determined to be medically eligible for a wish by their physician. The child's treating physician makes the final determination of whether the medical condition qualifies the child for a wish.

## DOES A CHILD'S CONDITION HAVE TO BE TERMINAL TO QUALIFY FOR A WISH?

No. Many of the children who qualify for a wish go on to lead healthy lives. We grant the wishes of medically eligible children (i.e., those diagnosed with critical illnesses – a progressive, degenerative or malignant condition that has placed the child's life in jeopardy).

## ARE THERE ANY RESTRICTIONS ON A WISH?

Each Make-A-Wish chapter follows specific policies and guidelines for granting a child's wish. The physician also plays a major role in determining whether the child's condition will permit a particular wish to be coordinated safely. Make-A-Wish staff members work closely with the wish kid's physician to determine the most appropriate time to grant the wish, keeping in mind the child's treatment protocol or other concerns.

## DOES THE FAMILY HAVE TO PAY FOR THE WISH?

No. All wish expenses are fully covered, including all travel and spending money when appropriate. The Make-A-Wish objective is to create a memorable wish experience for both the child and family that is not clouded by financial concerns.

## DOES THE WISH FAMILY HAVE TO MEET INCOME QUALIFICATIONS BEFORE A CHILD CAN RECEIVE A WISH?

No. Family income is not a consideration in determining whether a child is eligible to receive a wish.

*I wish to have a playset*

**Alexa, 2 ½**  
respiratory disorder



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## DO YOU GRANT WISHES TO ADULTS?

No. Make-A-Wish only grants wishes to children who have been referred to the organization and determined to be eligible for a wish before their 18th birthday. However, there are other wish-granting organizations that grant wishes to adults.

## HOW CAN I CONNECT WITH MY LOCAL MAKE-A-WISH CHAPTER?

Make-A-Wish serves every community in the U.S. and its territories through a network of 59 chapters. Find your local Make-A-Wish chapter by visiting [wish.org/local-chapters](http://wish.org/local-chapters) and enter your zip code or state.

*I wish to have  
a chicken coop*

**Sawyer, 3**  
leukemia



*I wish to play a  
ukulele in Hawaii*

**Celine, 15**  
blood disorder

