

Vial of L.I.F.E. Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Vial of L.I.F.E.?

The Vial of L.I.F.E. is Lifesaving Information For Emergencies. The Vial of L.I.F.E. kit is a small plastic container that holds your vital medical information and is stored in your refrigerator. This kit enables emergency medical personnel to quickly locate helpful information regarding your medical history in a time of crisis. It is very important that you keep this information up to date, accurate, and placed in a prominent spot in your refrigerator.

2. Who should use the Vial of L.I.F.E.?

The Vial of L.I.F.E. is designed for people with special medical conditions such as, heart conditions, prior stroke, seizures, and respiratory conditions. This is also for people who may have a serious allergy to any medications or have any other life threatening allergies. In an emergency every minute counts. Allergies, medications and medical conditions can all have deadly consequences.

3. How do I use the Vial of L.I.F.E.?

- Please complete a Vial of L.I.F.E. form. Be sure to include the date that you completed this form.
- Attach a recent photograph of yourself to the back page of the form the Vial of L.I.F.E. form and put it inside the Vial of L.I.F.E. container.
- Place the Vial of L.I.F.E. container on the top shelf inside your refrigerator door, closest to the door handle.
- Attach the Vial of L.I.F.E. sticker to the outside top corner of your refrigerator door to alert emergency personnel to the presence of Vial of L.I.F.E. information.

4. Why should I use the Vial of L.I.F.E.?

The Vial of L.I.F.E. program enables emergency responders, such as, firefighters, paramedics, etc. to respond quickly to an emergency situation by accessing your medical history. Emergency personnel will know to look for The Vial of L.I.F.E. in your refrigerator to help them access this Life Saving Information in an Emergency situation. If you are unconscious or unavailable to provide this important information to emergency personnel the Vial of L.I.F.E. will give this information for you. The Vial of L.I.F.E. can save lives.

5. Where do I get the Vial of L.I.F.E.?

You can obtain a Vial of L.I.F.E. from either one of Gilroy's Fire stations. There are two Fire Stations in Gilroy.

6. Where are the Fire Stations located in Gilroy?

The Las Animas Station is located on the corner of Wren and Welburn. The address for this Fire Station is 8383 Wren Avenue. The Chestnut Station is located on tenth and Chestnut. The address for this Fire Station is 7070 Chestnut Street.

7. How do I get a Vial of L.I.F.E. if I am not ambulatory?

If you are unable to go and pick-up a Vial of L.I.F.E. from your local Fire Station, then you can send a family member or friend on your behalf to pick one up for you. If you do not know anyone that can pick-up a Vial of L.I.F.E. for you, please call (408) 846-0372, so that

we can further assist you.

8. How do I get more information about the Vial of L.I.F.E.?

You can get more information about the Vial of L.I.F.E. by reading this list of Frequently Asked Questions. If you have any other questions you can contact us at: (408) 846-0372.

- 9. Where can I get another Vial of L.I.F.E. form?** You can download a form [here](#) or you may come and pick-up an additional form at one of the Gilroy Fire Stations.
- 10. Should I include a sample of medication in my Vial of L.I.F.E.?**

Please do not include a sample of the medication you are taking in your Vial of L.I.F.E. Please just write about what medications you are taking as well as the dosage and how often you take your medicine. This is the kind of information that is helpful to emergency responders.

11. Why do I need to fill out my Vial of L.I.F.E. form in pencil?

It is important to fill out your Vial of L.I.F.E. form in pencil, so that you can easily make changes about your medications, emergency contacts or your medical history. It is very important to keep this information current. This way you will not need a new form for every change that you have.

- 12. What do I do if my medical information changes?** Erase the old information and rewrite the new information in its place. It is not necessary to contact the Fire Department every time that you have to make a change on your Vial of L.I.F.E. form.
- 13. Is the Vial of L.I.F.E. used in all cities?**

The Vial of L.I.F.E. program is known internationally, however it may not be available in every city. We have adapted this program specifically for the residents of the Gilroy community.

14. Can I get a Vial of L.I.F.E. for a friend that does not live in Gilroy?

Since the Vial of L.I.F.E. has been made available through the Gilroy Fire Department, it was intended to target residents with serious health conditions in the Gilroy community only. Unfortunately, our resources for this program only allow us to provide this program to Gilroy residents. People that live outside the City of Gilroy are encouraged to contact their local Fire Department or local health care facilities to obtain more information about whether a program like this has been developed for their area.

15. What do I do if there is more than one Vial of L.I.F.E. user in the same residence?

If you have more than one person in your residence that qualifies for this program, just keep all of the forms in the same Vial. It is not necessary to have a Vial for each person. Make sure to attach a recent picture to your form to distinguish each user.

16. Why should I include a photo with my Vial of L.I.F.E. form?

It is important to include a recent photo with your Vial of L.I.F.E. form to distinguish between users. Even if you live alone it is important to include a recent photo with your form just in case you happen to have guests stay in your home. By including a recent

photo you can be sure that there is no confusion for Emergency Personnel.

17. How can I help support the Vial of L.I.F.E. program?

With the continuous population growth for the City of Gilroy we need to be sure that we have adequate resources to supply at risk residents with this very important program. It is organizations like the St. Louis Regional Hospital and the Gilroy Firefighters Local 2805 that help make this program available to the residents of Gilroy. If you would like to help out by sponsoring this program, please contact The Gilroy Fire Education Office at (408) 846-0372. Thank-you!