



Make-A-Wish Foundation® Fast Facts

- The Make-A-Wish Foundation is one of the world's leading children's charities. The Make-A-Wish Foundation has granted the wishes of **more than 200,000 children** with life-threatening medical conditions in the United States.
- The Make-A-Wish Foundation grants a wish **every 40 minutes**.
- In fiscal year 2010, the Foundation granted **13,580 wishes**, the most ever in its 30-year history. The most popular wish is to visit a theme park, which accounts for more than 40 percent of the requests from our wish kids.
- Typically, children's wishes fall into four categories: *To Be* (e.g., a zookeeper, a firefighter, a baker), *To Meet* (e.g., a favorite celebrity or athlete), *To Have* (e.g., a computer, a playhouse, a puppy), or *To Go* (e.g., to a theme park, Hawaii, a major sporting event).
- To qualify for a wish, the child must be older than 2½ years old and younger than 18 (at the time of referral) and must not have received a wish from another wish-granting organization. A child can be referred to the Make-A-Wish Foundation by a parent or guardian, a medical professional, or by the child.
- Following referral, a certified medical professional must verify that the child has a life-threatening medical condition. There are no other qualifications based on sex, race, religion, socioeconomic status or any other demographic category.
- The average cost of a wish is \$7,205 (as of March 2010). For every dollar donated to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, **75 percent** goes towards wish granting, which exceeds program service allocation standards set forth by leading charity watchdog groups, including the Council of Better Business Bureaus. The Make-A-Wish Foundation was one of the first charities to earn the **Better Business Bureaus Wise Giving Alliance Seal** and has earned the highest rating, four stars, from **Charity Navigator**, the nation's premier independent charity evaluator.
- The 2010 EquiTrend® study from global market research firm Harris Interactive ranks the Make-A-Wish Foundation as one of the top 10 charities in trust (No. 7), nonprofits people are most like to donate to in the future (No. 8), and brand equity (No. 9).
- The Make-A-Wish Foundation of America's national office is located in Phoenix. The 64 Make-A-Wish® chapters in the United States and the U.S. territories of Guam and Puerto Rico enable the Foundation to serve children in **every U.S. community**.
- **Nearly 25,000 volunteers** help the Make-A-Wish Foundation maintain its grassroots support by delivering the organization's mission to seriously ill children across the country. Volunteers serve Make-A-Wish chapters in a variety of capacities, including wish granting, office administrative support, special events, fundraising, language translation and much more.

The Make-A-Wish mission and message are about the life-affirming, hope-giving aspects of the wish experience. We never use the words "terminal" or "dying" to refer to a wish child, nor do we unduly emphasize a child's illness, medical treatment or death.



Wishes Reflect Imagination, Interests of Wish Kids

PHOENIX – Every 40 minutes, the Make-A-Wish Foundation® grants the heartfelt wish of a child with a life-threatening medical condition. These wishes take wish kids and their families on a joyful journey away from doctor visits and medical treatments at a time when they need it most.

The wishes reflect the diversity of wish kids' imaginations. Each comes with a heartwarming story of hope, strength and joy. Following are a few wishes the Make-A-Wish Foundation has granted recently or are being planned by wish granters.

I wish to go:

- * to the Grammy® Awards
- * to the Teen Choice Awards
- * to the Super Bowl
- * to Fashion Week
- * to WWE WrestleMania®
- * to a movie premiere
- * to the Daytona 500
- * fishing in the Florida Keys
- * to a Disney® theme park
- * to the set of my favorite TV show

I wish to be:

- * a model
- * a movie actor
- * a comic book artist
- * a superhero
- * a ballerina
- * a lifeguard in Hawaii
- * a game-show contestant
- * a fashion designer
- * an Army Ranger
- * a firefighter
- * a police officer
- * a *National Geographic* photographer
- * coach of my favorite NFL team
- * an archeologist

I wish to have:

- * a puppy
- * a fort in my backyard
- * a dinosaur in my backyard
- * a computer
- * a horse
- * my own prom
- * a custom-made drum kit
- * my bedroom remodeled
- * a shopping spree at my favorite stores
- * a grand piano
- * air conditioning for my house
- * my own music CD

I wish to meet:

- * my favorite actor/actress
- * my favorite pro athlete
- * my favorite musical group
- * my favorite talk-show host
- * my favorite celebrity chef
- * my favorite movie director
- * my favorite sportscaster
- * my favorite cartoon character
- * my favorite cartoonist