



Applicant Match Week/SOAP Guide

Match Week for the 2017 Main Residency Match® will take place March 13-17, 2017. Below is important information about Match Week activities, including the Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program® (SOAP®).

Wednesday, March 8: #SOAP2017 Twitter Chat

At 2:00 PM Eastern Time, the NRMP® and ERAS® are hosting a Twitter chat to answer applicant questions about SOAP. Follow and ask questions using the #SOAP2017 hashtag.

Friday, March 10: SOAP Eligibility Notification

At 12:00 PM ET, **ALL** applicants receive notification of their SOAP eligibility. This notification is **NOT** an indication of whether applicants are matched or unmatched but rather an indication of their ability to participate in SOAP if they learn on Monday of Match Week that they are unmatched or partially matched.

Monday, March 13: Match Status Notification

At 11:00 AM ET, applicants learn if (but not where) they matched. Match status notification is sent by email, and applicants also can use a mobile device to access their match status in the NRMP R3 system. Applicants who match are invited to join the joint NRMP, AMA, AAMC Match Week celebration by [downloading "I Matched!" images](#), sharing messages using #Match2017, and by visiting [Tagboard](#) and [Storify](#). Join us in making #Match2017 a top trend on Twitter like #Match2016 was last year!

March 13-16: SOAP for Unmatched Applicants

Applicants who are SOAP-eligible and unmatched or partially matched will be able to participate in SOAP to apply for unfilled positions. **Prior to Match Week, applicants should familiarize themselves with the [SOAP schedule](#) and [SOAP resources](#).**

- At 11:00 AM ET on Monday, March 13, SOAP-eligible unmatched and partially matched applicants can access the *List of Unfilled Programs* under the SOAP tab in the NRMP R3 system. SOAP applicants are encouraged to consult with their medical school advisors.
- At 2:00 PM ET on Monday, SOAP applicants can prepare and send up to 45 applications in the ERAS system. Programs can view SOAP applications in ERAS at 3:00 PM ET.
 - **SOAP applicants are prohibited from contacting programs outside of ERAS until programs initiate contact with them. School officials or other entities acting on the applicant's behalf also must refrain from contacting programs. Applicants who violate SOAP policies will be investigated and could be barred from participation in SOAP the following year.**
 - Programs contact applicants in whom they are interested. Programs vary in how they manage the SOAP process. Brief telephone or online interviews are common. Program directors cannot ask applicants to indicate whether they will accept an offer if one is extended through SOAP.
- Positions are offered to applicants through the NRMP R3 system in order of a program's preference list and according to the number of unfilled positions remaining in the program. *Applicants do not create preference lists during SOAP.*
 - SOAP includes three Offer Rounds: 12:00 PM ET and 3:00 PM ET on Wednesday, March 15, and 9:00 AM ET on Thursday, March 16.
 - In each Offer Round, applicants have two hours to accept or reject offers in the R3 system. Offers not accepted or rejected expire automatically.
 - Offers can be viewed and accepted using a mobile device.
 - Offers rejected or expired will not be extended again to the same applicant in future SOAP Offer Rounds.

- **Positions offered and accepted during SOAP establish a binding commitment enforced by the Match Participation Agreement.**
- The *List of Unfilled Programs* is updated five minutes after the end of each SOAP Offer Round.
- SOAP concludes at 11:00 AM ET on Thursday, March 16.

Thursday, March 16: Post-SOAP *List of Unfilled Programs*

At 12:00 PM ET, the *List of Unfilled Programs* will be updated in the NRMP R3 system to show **ALL** unfilled programs, including programs not participating in SOAP. All unmatched and partially matched applicants will have access to the List to contact unfilled programs.

Friday, March 17: Match Day!

At 12:00 PM ET, U.S. allopathic medical schools hold Match Day ceremonies. At 1:00 PM ET, Match results are sent by email, and applicants also can use a mobile device to access their results in the NRMP R3 system.

Support Resources

The NRMP has [SOAP resources](#) posted online, including video tutorials, frequently asked questions, and a complete Match Week schedule. ERAS has informational materials about the [SOAP application process](#) on its website.

Further assistance is available from the NRMP Help Desk Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 AM and 5:30 PM Eastern Time at 202-400-2233, toll-free at 1-866-653-NRMP (6767), or by email at support@nrmp.org.