

## SOAP Highlights for Programs

### SOAP Principles

- Programs participating in SOAP **MUST** accept applications only through ERAS and **MUST** offer unfilled positions only through SOAP until 11:00 a.m. ET on Thursday of Match Week.
  - Program directors cannot contact applicants or their representatives until an application is received.
  - Program directors cannot ask applicants to indicate whether they will accept an offer if one is extended through SOAP.
  - Programs cannot create positions for unmatched applicants until 11:00 a.m. ET on Thursday.
  - Programs cannot contact SOAP-ineligible applicants until SOAP concludes at 11:00 a.m. ET on Thursday.
- Programs that opt out of SOAP participation **CANNOT** extend offers until after SOAP concludes at 11:00 a.m. ET on Thursday of Match Week.
- At the conclusion of SOAP:
  - The List of Unfilled Programs posted in the Registration, Ranking, and Results ® (R3®) system is updated to include **ALL** Match-participating programs with unfilled positions, regardless of the program's SOAP participation status.
  - Programs can create positions **ONLY** for partially-matched applicants beginning at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time on Thursday.
- ***Positions offered/accepted during SOAP establish a binding commitment enforced by the Match Participation Agreement.***

### How SOAP Works

- Programs review ERAS applications, contact applicants of interest, and express preferences with lists of applicants created in the R3 system. Applicants do not submit preference lists. Applicants and individuals/entities acting on behalf of applicants are prohibited from contacting programs until the program initiates contact.
- Positions are offered through the R3 system to applicants in order of a program's preference list and according to the number of unfilled positions remaining in the program.
  - A program's preference list **MUST** be certified five minutes prior to the start of a SOAP round.
  - Applicants have 2 hours in which to accept, reject, or let offers expire.  
**Note: Offers rejected will NOT immediately be issued to the next available applicant on the program's preference list. Offers are extended ONLY at the start of a SOAP round.**
  - The R3 system updates preference lists real-time to show whether applicants have accepted or rejected offers. Because applicants may become unavailable because they have accepted an offer in another program, **the order of applicants on the preference list can change in each SOAP round.**
  - Programs receive an email notification when an offer is accepted.
- The ***View SOAP Programs Preferred Applicants*** report is available at 2:00 p.m. on Friday of Match Week. The report lists all applicants on the program's preference list at the conclusion of SOAP and indicates those to whom offers were extended, those who accepted positions, and the SOAP round in which the positions were accepted.