

SOAP Highlights for Schools

SOAP Principles

- SOAP-eligible applicants **MUST** submit applications only through ERAS and **MUST** accept unfilled positions only through SOAP until SOAP concludes at 11:00 a.m. ET on Thursday of Match Week.
 - **Note: Applicants and individuals/entities acting on behalf of applicants CANNOT contact programs until the program initiates contact.**
- SOAP-ineligible applicants **CANNOT** apply to **ANY** Match-participating programs, even those not participating in SOAP, until after SOAP concludes at 11:00 a.m. ET on Thursday of Match Week.
- **Positions offered/accepted during SOAP establish a binding commitment enforced by the Match Participation Agreement.**

How SOAP Works

- The Friday before Match Week NRMP, notifies **ALL** applicants about their SOAP eligibility status, **regardless of whether they obtained a position when the matching algorithm was processed.**
- Applicants learn whether they are matched, unmatched, or partially matched at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time on Monday of Match Week. Applicants who are fully matched or who are not SOAP-eligible will **NOT** be able to participate in SOAP or have access to the List of Unfilled Programs.
 - **Note: ONLY those unfilled programs participating in SOAP will appear on the List. Partially matched applicants can view ONLY the position types for which they are eligible.**
- Applicants review the List of Unfilled Programs and express preferences by applying to programs using ERAS. Programs review ERAS applications and express preferences with lists of applicants created in the R3 system.
- 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.
 - Applicants receive an email if an offer is extended and can receive multiple offers in any SOAP round.
 - Applicants should **NOT** accept an offer until all offers have been generated in that round. A banner will display in the R3 system.
 - Applicants have 2 hours in which to accept, reject, or let offers expire.
 - Offers accepted automatically make applicants ineligible for the same type of position in another program. Offers rejected/expired will **NOT** be extended again.
- The **SOAP Schools Report**, available starting at 12:00 p.m. ET on Wednesday of Match Week, provides information about unmatched students who have and have not accepted SOAP offers, the types of positions accepted, and the program and institution names. The **SOAP Schools Report** will be available "real time" as offers are accepted, giving school officials current information about the status of their SOAP-participating students.

Determining Applicant Eligibility for SOAP:

To participate in SOAP, applicants **MUST** be unmatched or partially matched **AND** able to enter graduate medical education (GME) on July 1 in the year of the Match.

- Eligibility of U.S. medical school seniors and prior-year graduates is determined by their medical school.
- Eligibility is based on each school's graduation requirements.
 - **Note: Students ineligible to enter GME on July 1 in the year of the Match MUST be designated as SOAP-ineligible. Applicants deemed ineligible and withdrawn from the Match prior to the Rank Order List Deadline can participate in SOAP if they subsequently become eligible to enter GME on July 1 in the year of the Match. Applicants should be marked SOAP-ineligible only if the school official knows conclusively that the applicant cannot enter GME on July 1.**