

POLICY CHANGES: APPLICANTS

2020 Main Residency Match

The Match Participation Agreement for Applicants and Programs has been revised for the 2020 Main Residency Match to include the following policy changes for applicants. This information highlights only policies that have changed for the upcoming Match season. Applicants are responsible for reading and complying with the entire Match Participation Agreement, which is binding on all parties.

Section 2.0 – Applicants

- **Section 2.2.1.** The term "sponsored applicant" means a senior student enrolled in a medical school accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education ("LCME") *OR* the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) at the time of registration for the Match. If any of an institution's graduate medical education programs participates in the Main Residency Match, all the institution's programs, regardless of Match participation status, must offer positions to sponsored applicants through the Main Residency Match or another national matching plan. (See also 2.4.3(b), 3.1, and 19.14)
- **Section 2.2.3.** Any two applicants may participate in the *Main Residency Match* as a couple. If two applicants who registered as a couple do not obtain a match as a couple, the *Main Residency Match* will not try to find a separate match for either of them individually. A U.S. medical school that is not the home school of a partner who also is enrolled in a U.S. medical school may receive and notify that partner of Match results for the purpose of Match Day ceremonies, provided the applicants and medical schools consent.

Section 4.0 – Communications

- **Section 4.1.** If a Match participant is involved in a waiver or violation investigation, the participant is responsible for conveying any change in email address to the NRMP after the Match has concluded.

In addition to communication electronically, the NRMP shall communicate violations of this Agreement that have been confirmed in a Final Report ("confirmed violation") as provided in Section 8.2. Paper copies of the Report will be distributed by regular mail if an email address is not available.

If the participant unsubscribes from NRMP emails or notices, the NRMP shall have no responsibility for sending NRMP information or providing for its receipt.

- **Section 4.6.** Applicants have the right to keep their rank order lists and *SOAP* preferences confidential and not to share them with any other individual or entity. It is not a violation of this Agreement if 1) students choose voluntarily to share their rank order lists with their medical school advisors, or 2) schools offer to review rank order lists to support students in the Match process.

Section 8.0 – Match Violations

- **Section 8.1.** If the NRMP receives sufficient, credible information that a violation of the Agreement has occurred, the NRMP will initiate an investigation in accordance with the Violations Policy. Following completion of its review, a Review Panel shall issue a written Review Panel Report and confirm whether or not the subject applicant or program has violated the Agreement. If the Review Panel has confirmed a violation and the applicant or program accepts the adverse decision, the decision will be considered final and the NRMP will issue a Final Report of the case. If the subject applicant or program, as the case may be, contests the adverse determination through available dispute resolution procedures described in Section 15.0, a Final Report will not be issued until dispute resolution procedures are exhausted or waived. A copy of the Final Report shall be sent to the subject applicant or program and the list of recipients as described below in section 8.2.

- **Section 8.2.1.** When a Final Report of a confirmed violation is issued to the applicant electronically, copies also will be issued to:
 - (1) the applicant's medical school official, with a request that the Final Report be placed in the applicant's permanent file
 - (2) the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates if the applicant is a student/graduate of an international medical school
 - (3) the NRMP institutional official and director of the program to which the applicant matched or in which the applicant accepted a position during **SOAP**
 - (4) the NRMP institutional official and the director of the program to which the applicant has applied or switched (if known)
 - (5) the person or entity who originally reported the violation
 - (6) The NRMP Executive Committee
 - (7) the American Board of Medical Specialties, if appropriate
 - (8) the American Osteopathic Association, if appropriate
 - (10) the Federation of State Medical Boards if the applicant is to be permanently identified as a Match violator or permanently barred from future NRMP Matches
 - (11) state medical licensure boards, if requested by the applicant
 - (12) any parties whom the NRMP has determined are relevant to its investigation

Questions should be directed to Policy at 202-400-2235 or policy@nrmp.org.