

Match Overview

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National Resident Matching Program

- Private, not-for-profit corporation established in 1952 to provide a uniform date of appointment to positions in Graduate Medical Education in the U.S.
 - NRMP also conducts matches for fellowship positions in 34 sub-specialties through its Specialties Matching Service (SMS).
 - The Match provides a uniform date for decisions about residency selection for both the applicants and the programs.
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Who Oversees the NRMP?

- Association of American Medical Colleges
- American Hospital Association
- American Medical Association
- Council of Medical Specialty Societies
- Organization of Program Director Associations
- American Board of Medical Specialties
- American Medical Student Association
- AAMC Organization of Student Representatives
- AMA Medical Student Section

The 2008 Match

- 4,214 programs participated in the Match; 25,066 positions offered.
- 35,956 applicants.
- 15,692 US senior medical students; 20,264 independent applicants.

Registering for the Match

- Registration – Each program will login in to the NRMP website with their AAMC ID number and a password. This is usually done by the coordinator. If you forget this number, the GME office can help you retrieve it. If you forget your password, you will have to call NRMP to get it.
- Match Participation Agreement – The institution and participating programs are required to sign Agreements.

Specialties Matching Service

- NRMP conducts matches for fellowship positions in 34 sub-specialties.
- Specialty matches conducted throughout the year.

The NRMP Algorithm

- Algorithm favors students.
- All applicants (US allopathic students, US osteopathic students, physicians, IMGs) are treated equally.
- Using the algorithm, the computer matches students in about six minutes.

The NRMP Algorithm

- The Match handles each applicant in sequence.
- An attempt is made to place an applicant into his or her most preferred program.
- If this is unsuccessful, then an attempt is made to place the applicant into the second, third, etc. ranked program.
- This process continues until there is a (tentative) match or until the applicant's listed programs have been exhausted.

The NRMP Algorithm

- When subsequent applicants go through the process, an attempt is first made to place them into their most preferred program
- If a program they ranked highly has ranked them higher than applicants already tentatively matched, the new applicants get the spot and the previously matched applicants to back through the algorithm.

The NRMP Algorithm

- When applicants are “bumped” from a spot and go back through the Match, the process begins again with their first-choice program.
- The Match is complete when all applicants have either been matched with one of their choices or all the programs listed by the applicants have filled their positions.

Participating Specialties

- Most PGY-1 positions are offered through the NRMP Match using the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS).
- Ophthalmology, some Plastic Surgery Programs and some fellowships use the San Francisco Matching Program.

Our Programs and Their Current Quotas

Code	Program	Quota	Code	Program	Quota
A	Anesthesiology	14	C	Pathology-CP only	1
A	Dermatology	3	C	Pediatrics	20
C	Emergency Medicine	8	A	Phys Medicine & Rehab	4
C	Family Medicine	7	C	Plastic Surgery	1
C	Internal Medicine	24	C	Psychiatry	6
C	Internal Med/Research	1	A	Radiology-Diagnostic	5
P	Medicine Prelim.	13	A	Radiation-Oncology	3
P	Med-Pre/Ophthal.	3	C	General Surgery	5
C	Neurological Surg.	2	P	Surgery-Preliminary	1
C	Neurology	4	C	Urology	2
C	OB/Gyn	6	C	Med-Peds	3
C	Orthopaedic Surg.	5	C	Peds/Psych/Child Psych	2
C	Otolaryngology	3	C	Pathology-AP/CP Comb	4

Types of PGY-1 Positions

- Three types of PGY-1 positions offered:
 - Categorical
 - Preliminary
 - Transitional

Categorical Positions

- Designed for broad specialties.
 - Do not require preliminary training.
 - Generally for individuals who want to remain in the same program throughout their residency.
 - Programs: Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Emergency Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, General Surgery, and Pathology.
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Preliminary Positions

- Designed for students seeking one or two years of clinical experience prior to another specialty.
- Available in Internal Medicine and General Surgery.
- If applying to an advanced program, students must apply separately for a preliminary program.

Transitional Positions

- Generally designed for students who cannot decide on a medical specialty.
- May also serve as a substitute for a preliminary year.

Advanced Positions

- Presumes the student will complete a preliminary year.
- Positions offered at the PGY-2 level or above.

Advanced Programs

- Examples of programs that require a preliminary year:
 - Anesthesiology
 - Dermatology
 - Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
 - Diagnostic Radiology
 - Radiation Oncology

Rank-Order Lists

- The order in which a program lists applicants is the Rank-Order List (ROL).
- Applicants complete ROL of programs.
- ROL submitted to the NRMP electronically.
- ROL may be modified as often as desired until mid-February at which point both applicants and programs must certify a final ROL (2/25/09 for this year's match).

Confidentiality

- Match rules do not allow programs or applicants to ask each other how they will be ranked.
- ROL's from both parties are confidential.
- Applicants must report any program to the NRMP that offers a contract outside of the Match for punitive actions.

Match Results

- Match Day is in mid-March (3/19/09 this year).
- Three days prior to Match Day at 12 noon EST, students may check the NRMP website to see IF (but not WHERE) they matched.
- On that same day, the medical school Dean's office gets a list of all students who did not match and those applicants are notified.

Match Results

- Two days prior to Match Day, at 11:30 a.m. EST, program directors learn if their programs have filled.
- At 12 noon EST, the NRMP website makes available to the medical school Dean's office a list of programs with openings.
- At this time, unmatched students and programs can begin scrambling to fill the open positions.

Match Results

- One day prior to Match Day, at 2:00 p.m. EST, the Dean's Office is sent a confidential list where each student matched.
- On Match Day, at 12 noon EST, students are given notification of where they matched, or the student may check the NRMP website at 1:00 p.m. EST.

Couples Match

- May be used by married students, engaged students or close friends.
- The couple enrolls in the Match, but indicates they want to be in the Match as part of a couple.
- Couples apply to and interview at programs separately but within the same geographic region.
- Each person completes a ROL, trying to rank programs equally.
- Couples are treated as a solely as a couple; if they do not match as a couple, the NRMP will not run their lists separately to find a match for each individual.

San Francisco Match

- Residency Programs:
 - Child Neurology (PGY-3)
 - Neurotology
 - Ophthalmology (PGY-2)
 - Plastic Surgery (PGY-4)
 - Fellowship Programs (ours):
 - Orthopedic Sports Medicine
 - Spine Surgery
 - Website: www.sfmatch.org
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Some Match Rules

- The Match Participation Agreement is a binding agreement between the participating institution, its registered programs and the NRMP.
- Programs and applicants are not authorized to release each other from their binding match commitment. Strict rules apply to waiver requests from applicants or programs.
- It is a violation to recruit a 4th year allopathic medical student outside of the match even if the program is not registered for the Match.
- Failure of an applicant, program or institution to honor the terms and conditions of the Match Participation Agreement may result in sanctions or withdrawal from the Matching Program.

Handouts

- How the NRMP Process Works
 - The Application Process
 - The Residency Match
 - Independent Applicants
 - How the Matching Algorithm Works
 - The Integrity of the NRMP Match
 - The Match Participation Agreement
 - Schedule of the Main Residency Match
 - Schedule of Sub-specialty Match
 - NRMP Website: www.nrmp.org
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Questions and Discussion