

## Independent Applicant Eligibility and Participation in the Match: What You Need to Know

For graduates of U.S. MD medical schools, graduates of U.S. DO medical schools, and seniors and graduates of Canadian medical schools to participate in the Main Residency Match, the following requirements must be met:

- the applicant is a graduate of a U.S. medical school accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME®); **OR**
- the applicant is a graduate of a medical school accredited the American Osteopathic Association Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation; **OR**
- the applicant is enrolled in or a graduate of a medical school accredited by the Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools; **AND**
- the applicant has been determined **by the medical school** to be on schedule for graduation or have graduated and is eligible to enter graduate medical education (GME) on July 1 in the year of the Match.

Graduates of U.S. MD-granting medical schools, graduates of U.S. DO-granting medical schools, and seniors and graduates of Canadian medical schools can choose whether to participate in the Match and can withdraw themselves up until the Rank Order List Certification Deadline to accept a non-Match position; however, those that elect to participate in the Match will have their credentials verified by their medical schools.

### What is my school official's responsibility for determining my match eligibility/participation?

NRMP medical school officials must:

- verify that the school's senior students are on track to graduate before July 1st in the year of the Match or verify that applicants have graduated in a previous year.
- review the eligibility status of all students prior to Match Week to determine if students are eligible to participate in the Match Week Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program (SOAP).

### What happens if my credentials are not verified?

If for any reason your school does not verify your graduation and eligibility to enter GME on July 1 in the year of the Match, the NRMP will contact the school official and request that the verification be completed. Those whose credentials are not verified will be withdrawn automatically from the Match. That means

- your rank order list will not be used when the matching algorithm is processed.
- you may accept a non-Match position provided training begins no later than January 31st in the year following the Match or you can elect to participate in next year's Match.
- you may not accept a non-Match position before 12:00 p.m. eastern time on Wednesday of Match Week. Your withdrawn status may or may not affect your ability to participate in the Match Week Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program (SOAP).

## REMINDERS

- If your school official notifies the NRMP after the matching algorithm has been processed that you are ineligible to enter GME on July 1 in the year of the Match, the NRMP is authorized to grant you and the program to which you matched an immediate waiver.