SOAP Highlights for Programs

SOAP Principles

- Programs participating in SOAP **MUST** accept applications only through AAMC's ERAS® or the application service or process designated by the program and **MUST** offer unfilled positions only through SOAP until SOAP concludes.
  - Program directors cannot contact applicants or their representatives until their application is received.
  - Program directors cannot ask applicants to indicate whether they will accept an offer if one is extended through SOAP.
  - Programs cannot contact SOAP-ineligible applicants until SOAP concludes.

- Programs that opt out of SOAP participation **CANNOT** extend offers until after SOAP concludes.

- 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 and **ONLY** after SOAP concludes.

- Positions offered/accepted during SOAP establish a <u>binding commitment</u> enforced by the Match Participation Agreement.

How SOAP Works

- Programs review applications, contact applicants of interest, and express preferences with lists of applicants created to whom they would like to offer a position in the NRMP's 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 in the program at the start of the round.
  - 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 <u>NOT</u> immediately be issued to the next available applicant on the program's preference list during the round. Offers are extended <u>ONLY</u> at the start of each SOAP round.
  - The R3 system updates program 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 ***SOAP Programs Preferred Applicants*** report is available at 12:00 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.