Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program® (SOAP®)

2024 GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS

The Match Week Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program® (SOAP®) is the process for offering positions that are unfilled after the matching algorithm has been processed to eligible unmatched and partially matched applicants. The National Resident Matching Program® (NRMP®) manages SOAP in the Registration, Ranking, and Results® (R3®) system, and SOAP applications are delivered through the AAMC (Association of American Medical Colleges) Electronic Residency Application Service® (ERAS®) or the application service or process designated by the program. While the majority of programs participate with the ERAS program, the application service each program will require applicants to use is available in the Program Directory in the NRMP's R3 system and also will be displayed on the *List of Unfilled Programs*.

Eligibility Criteria

To participate in SOAP, applicants must be:

1. Registered for the Main Residency Match®.
2. [Eligible to enter graduate medical education](#) on July 1, 2024, as verified by the applicant's medical school or the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG), a member of Intealth.
3. Unmatched or partially unmatched on Monday of Match Week.

There is no separate NRMP registration or fee for SOAP, and applicants do not submit a rank order list.

An applicant's current verification status is available on the applicant's Home Page in the NRMP's R3 system. The NRMP is the authoritative source for applicant SOAP eligibility status. SOAP eligibility status will display on Monday, March 11, with the applicant's matched status. Applicants are responsible for ensuring they apply only to positions for which they are eligible, as shown on the SOAP *List of Unfilled Programs* in the R3 system.

Prepare for SOAP

For programs that require the use of the ERAS application during SOAP, the ERAS program team recommends applicants:

- Certify and submit their MyERAS® application if they have not already done so during the regular application season.
- Keep personal information (e.g., NRMP ID) updated in the MyERAS portal.
- Upload letters of recommendation.
- Update or add a new personal statement(s).

SOAP Resources
- [SOAP Process for Applicants video](#).
- [Match Week and SOAP Schedule](#).
- [ERAS Applicant Checklist for SOAP](#).

During SOAP

ERAS® Fees During SOAP
- If you applied to at least one residency program (for the 2024 ERAS application season) by Monday, March 11, at 7:30 a.m. ET, you will *not* pay any application fees during SOAP. Prior years' applications are not counted toward the current application season. For information about non-SOAP fees, visit Fees for ERAS Residency Applications.
- If you did not apply to at least one residency program by Monday, March 11, and you're eligible for SOAP, you will be charged a fee of $99. If you have not sent your USMLE or COMLEX-USA transcripts, a fee of $80 per transcript type will apply.

SOAP Rules
- SOAP-eligible applicants will have access to the NRMP's *List of Unfilled Programs* in the R3 system beginning at 10 a.m. ET on Monday, March 11.
- Applicants can only apply to programs for which they are eligible on the NRMP *List of Unfilled Programs* using the application service or process designated by the program.
  - Fully unmatched applicants will be able to apply to all program types.
  - Partially matched applicants can only apply to the program types (advanced or preliminary, and transitional) for which they are eligible.
- Applicants can apply to a total of 45 ERAS service-participating programs for the *entire* SOAP process.
  - The 45-application limit includes new and previous programs that the applicant applied to during the 2024 ERAS application season.
- Applicants cannot withdraw an application after it has been submitted. All applications will count toward the 45-application limit.
- **Applicants and their representatives cannot initiate communication with a program until the program receives an application and contacts either the applicant or the applicant's representative during SOAP.**
  - Applicants who violate this rule will be investigated by the NRMP and may be barred from SOAP the following year.

- Applicants are prohibited from copying, posting, or in any way sharing or making publicly available the *List of Unfilled Programs* or any Match information in the R3 system to anyone.
- Positions offered and accepted during SOAP establish a binding commitment between the applicant and the program and will be enforced through the NRMP Match Participation Agreement.
- Offers rejected or expired will not be extended again to the same applicant in future SOAP Offer Rounds.

SOAP Process and Offer Rounds

SOAP-eligible applicants can view the *List of Unfilled Programs* in the NRMP R3 system and then apply for unfilled positions through the ERAS application or the application service or process designated by the program.

- Programs will initiate contact with applicants.
- It is up to the program how they choose to evaluate, contact, and interview SOAP applicants.
- Programs will create preference lists in the R3 system, listing applicants in order of preference.
- Positions are offered to applicants through the R3 system during four SOAP Offer Rounds.
- For each Offer Round, applicants are offered positions based on the program's preference list order and according to the number of unfilled positions remaining in the program.
- Available applicants can receive multiple offers in any Offer Round.
- Each Offer Round is two hours, during which applicants can accept or reject offers they have received.
- Applicants are unable to apply to programs during Offer Rounds 1, 2, and 3.
- Offers not accepted or rejected during each SOAP Offer Round will expire automatically.
- Please note in planning how to use the allotted 45 ERAS applications that the majority of positions are filled during the first SOAP Offer Round.

SOAP Events Timeline

Day	Time	NRMP	ERAS Program
Monday, March 11	**7:30 a.m. ET**		The MyERAS program is *not* accessible.
	10 a.m. ET	**Applicants learn if they matched** (by email and R3 system). SOAP-eligible unmatched and partially matched applicants have access to the *List of Unfilled Programs* (under the SOAP tab in the R3 system).	The MyERAS program is *not* accessible. Applicants are encouraged to consult their medical schools for assistance.

	11 a.m. ET	**Reminder: Applicants and their representatives cannot initiate communication with a program until the program receives an application and contacts either the applicant or the applicant's representative during SOAP.**	**The MyERAS program is accessible.** SOAP applicants can start preparing applications. Make sure to assign any necessary documents, including USMLE and/or COMLEX-USA scores.
Tuesday, March 12	**8 a.m. ET**		SOAP programs can begin reviewing SOAP applications and reaching out to applicants. SOAP applicants can continue to apply to programs with their allotted 45 applications.
	11:30 a.m. ET	Programs begin creating preference lists in the R3 system. *Applicants* do not *submit a preference or rank order list for SOAP.*	
Wednesday, March 13	**All day**		Applicants may continue to apply to programs. SOAP programs can continue reaching out to applicants.
Thursday, March 14	**9 a.m. ET**	**SOAP Offer Round 1 Starts** Applicants receive offers. Applicants accept or reject offers via the R3 system.	Applicants are *unable* to apply during Offer Rounds in the MyERAS program.
	11 a.m. ET	**SOAP Offer Round 1 Ends** Applicant deadline to accept or reject Round 1 offers. *List of Unfilled Programs* is updated in the R3 system.	SOAP applicants can continue to apply to programs with their allotted 45 applications.

	12 p.m. ET	**SOAP Offer Round 2 Starts** Applicants receive offers.	Applicants are *unable* to apply during Offer Rounds in the MyERAS program.
		Applicants accept or reject offers via the R3 system.	
	2 p.m. ET	**SOAP Offer Round 2 Ends** Applicant deadline to accept or reject Round 2 offers. *List of Unfilled Programs* is updated in the R3 system.	SOAP applicants can continue to apply to programs with their allotted 45 applications.
	3 p.m. ET	**SOAP Offer Round 3 Starts** Applicants receive offers. Applicants accept or reject offers via the R3 system.	Applicants are *unable* to apply during Offer Rounds in the MyERAS program.
	5 p.m. ET	**SOAP Offer Round 3 Ends** Applicant deadline to accept or reject Round 3 offers. *List of Unfilled Programs* is updated in the R3 system.	SOAP applicants can continue to apply to programs with their allotted 45 applications.
	6 p.m. ET	**SOAP Offer Round 4 Starts** Applicants receive offers. Applicants accept or reject offers via the R3 system.	SOAP applicants can continue to apply to programs with their allotted 45 applications.
	8 p.m. ET	**SOAP Offer Round 4 Ends** Applicant deadline to accept or reject Round 4 offers.	

9 p.m. ET	SOAP Ends	SOAP applicants cannot continue to apply to programs with their allotted 45 applications.
	Post-SOAP *List of Unfilled Programs* will include all remaining unfilled programs (including those not participating in SOAP). This *List* is available in the R3 system on the top menu for all unmatched and partially matched applicants, regardless of SOAP eligibility.	**The ERAS program resumes normal operations.**
	All unmatched applicants can contact programs directly about remaining unfilled positions.	The MyERAS application is accessible to *all* applicants to apply to programs.

Additional Resources and Support

NRMP: Resources | Support: support@nrmp.org, 866-653-NRMP (6767), 202-400-2233 | @TheNRMP

ERAS Program: Resources | Support: AAMC Support Center, 202-862-6264 | @ERASInfo

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