

POLICY HIGHLIGHTS – APPLICANTS

As part of registration for a Match, applicants must accept the terms of the Match Participation Agreement ("Agreement"). NRMP urges all applicants to read the Agreement thoroughly - once the Agreement is executed in the Registration, Ranking, and Results® (R3®) system, and NRMP accepts the registration, the Agreement becomes a binding contract.

Applicants are responsible for the entire [Match Participation Agreement](#), but the bullets below highlight key parts of the Agreement (and where to find them in the Agreement) that can make it easier to navigate the Match and Match policies.

- No part of the data provided by NRMP may be used as an input to or otherwise in connection with any machine learning or artificial intelligence models, algorithms or other tools without the express written consent of the NRMP. (Sections 1.0 and 13.0)
- Before the Rank Order List Certification Deadline, the NRMP will verify that international medical graduates (IMGs) have completed the necessary examination and skills requirements for ECFMG certification. The ECFMG prescribes requirements for IMG entry into graduate medical education. (Sections 2.0 and 3.0)
- If two applicants participate in the Main Residency Match as a couple and
 - One member of the couple is withdrawn from, or is determined to be ineligible to participate in, the Match, and the individuals have not “uncoupled” in the Registration, Ranking, and Results (R3) system by the Rank Order List Certification Deadline
 - OR
 - One member of the couple has not certified their rank order list by the Rank Order List Certification Deadline and has not responded to the 24-hour window to submit a written request to the NRMP to certify their list, the NRMP will:
 - Notify both individuals of the status of the couple;
 - Uncouple the individuals; and
 - Re-certify and process the list of the eligible or certified individual.

If the eligible or certified individual wishes to be withdrawn from the Match, they must notify the NRMP in writing within 24 hours of being notified of the removal of couple status. (Section 3.3)

- The NRMP is not an employment service and does not oversee the terms of any contract between applicants and training programs. In addition, training programs have sole responsibility for establishing and communicating all program and institutional eligibility requirements for any residency position. (Section 4.0)
- All applicants who participate in the Match are expected to:
 - Act in an ethical and professional manner from the time of application through the 45th day following the start date of training, if matched, or through the conclusion of any NRMP-related waiver review, violation investigation, or appeal process.
 - Provide complete, timely, and accurate information both verbally and in writing throughout the application, interview, and matching processes to programs, and, where applicable, medical schools and the NRMP, including but not limited to information that would be pertinent to a program's decision to rank an applicant or onboard the applicant for training. (Section 6.0)

- During the recruitment phase, applicants must make judicious assessment of and decisions about interview offers, accepting only those they intend to fulfill, and apply reasonable measures (e.g., one-to-two weeks' notice) in the event of cancellation or rescheduling of interviews. Applicants may expect programs to:
 - Extend interview offers that equal, not exceed, the total number of available interview slots;
 - Provide applicants no less than 48 hours to accept or reject an interview invitation; and
 - Apply reasonable measures of notification (e.g., one-to-two weeks' notice) when needing to cancel or reschedule an interview. (Section 6.2)
- SOAP-eligible applicants must submit applications or other materials pertaining to the application to Match-participating programs that are participating in SOAP either through the Electronic Residency Application Service ("ERAS") or another application service required by the program. (Section 9.2)
- SOAP-eligible applicants who desire to pursue interests other than clinical residency training (e.g., research, Masters academic program, etc.), may do so in lieu of participating in SOAP provided:
 - The applicant does not submit any applications to SOAP-participating programs during Match Week;
 - Applicants who have submitted any applications during Match Week will be ineligible to participate in the SOAP exception.
 - The position is not affiliated with a Match- or SOAP-participating program; and
 - The position does not qualify for training credit in an ACGME-accredited program. (Section 9.4)
- Neither applicants nor programs may release each other from a matched position. Applicants who cannot or will not honor their binding commitment must request a waiver or a one-year deferral from the NRMP, which has sole discretion to grant or deny a requested waiver or deferral. (Section 11.0)
- Applicants should report any known or suspected violations of the Match Agreement within one year of learning about the incident. If the suspected violation involves a matched applicant, the violation must have occurred no later than the 45th day after the start date of the appointment contract. (Section 12.2)
- With respect to the use of Match information:
 - Applicants: Applicants must refrain from sharing any information from or maintained in the R3 system. Applicants are also prohibited from copying, distributing, or posting or in any way making publicly available, any Match Week information to any website or non-NRMP-related matching service, including sharing URLs that link to information from the R3 system or PDFs, even if the information already is in the public domain.
 - NRMP: Applicants authorize the NRMP to request, obtain, transmit or receive identifying information from their medical schools, the National Board of Medical Examiners, and/or the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners, and others for reasons including but not limited to verifying data submitted by the applicant, conducting a Match, or performing research.
 - NRMP is authorized to share identifiable information only with reputable organizations under strict, binding terms of a confidential data sharing agreement.
 - NRMP is not authorized to release clearly and uniquely identifiable information in publications, presentations, and reports. (Section 13.0)