



Navigating Match Week and SOAP[®] for Programs

PRESENTED BY:

Jeanette L. Calli MS, Chief of Match Operations

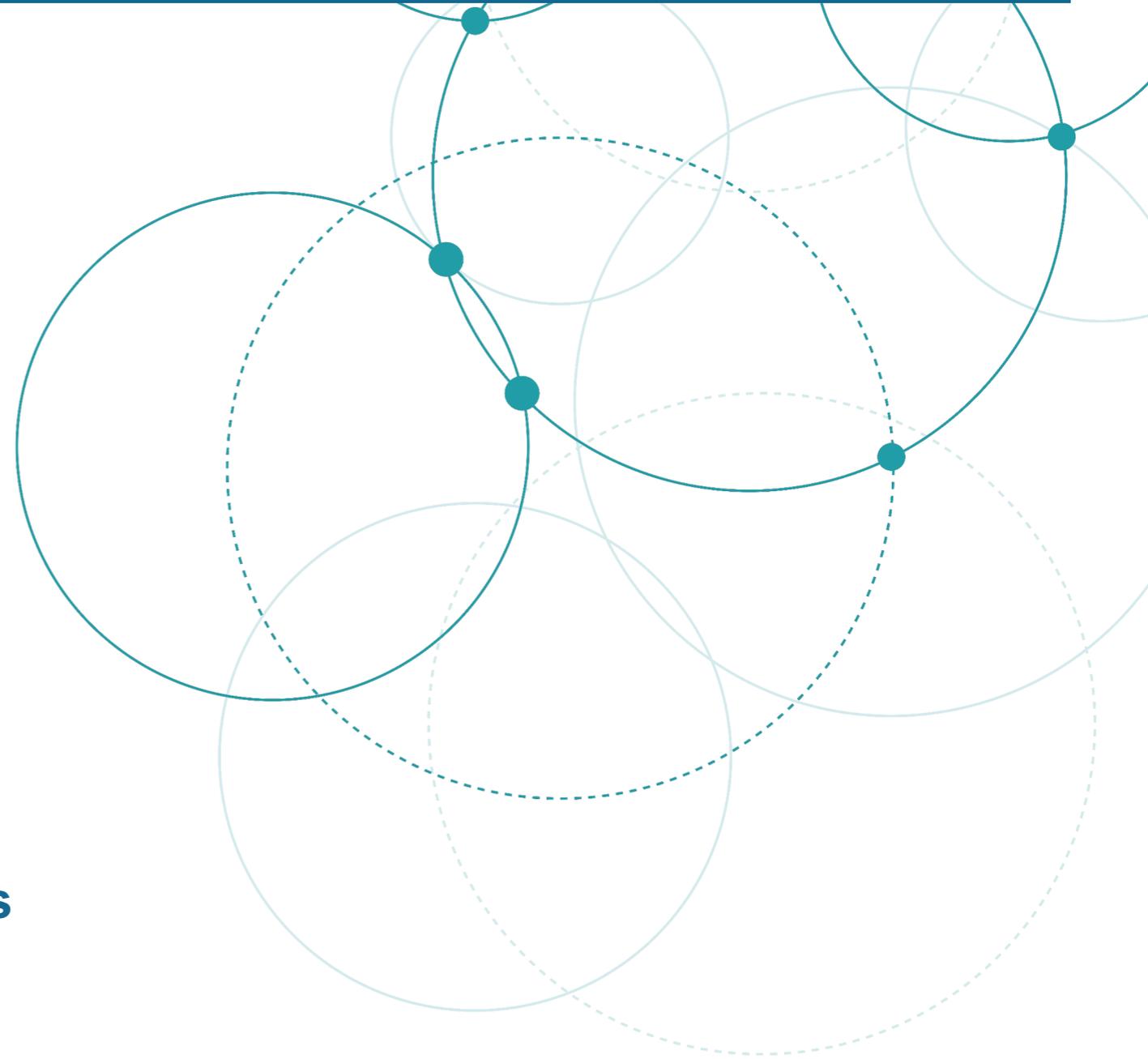
Joy Gaabucayan, Director of Policy & Compliance

February 25, 2026

THE MATCH[®]
NATIONAL RESIDENT MATCHING PROGRAM[®]

Agenda

- **What is SOAP?**
- **Policies**
- **SOAP Schedule & Preparing**
- **SOAP Begins: Viewing Your Program Status and Checking Applicant Eligibility**
- **Creating a Preference List**
- **How SOAP Rounds Work**
- **Monitoring and Updating Preference Lists**
- **Post-SOAP and Match Day**
- **Q&A**



Rank Order List Certification Deadline

The Rank Order List Certification Deadline for the Main Residency Match[®]:

Wednesday, March 4 at 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Programs must:

- Enter and Certify a rank order list (ROL) for your program(s)
- Enter reversions between tracks, if necessary
- Ensure any programs changes have been approved by the Institutional Official (IO) under the Change Approvals tab



What is SOAP?

The Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program[®] (SOAP[®]) is not another Match

Applicants and Programs find out their matched/filled status in the NRMP's R3[®] system

Applicants apply to programs using the application service (ERAS[®] or ResidencyCAS) designated by the program

Programs review applications and contact applicants of interest. Programs then create preference lists of applicants in the R3 system

Unfilled positions are offered to eligible applicants on the program's preference list in a series of four rounds

Positions offered and accepted constitute a binding commitment under the Match Participation Agreement

SOAP Policies



Programs participating in SOAP must offer unfilled positions only through SOAP until SOAP concludes at 9:00 p.m. ET on Thursday, March 19th

- Programs cannot contact applicants or their representatives until an application is received.
- **Programs 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 opted out of SOAP participation **CANNOT** solicit or consider applications or extend offers until after SOAP concludes.
- Offers extended and accepted during SOAP constitute a binding commitment.
- Programs can create positions for partially-matched applicants after SOAP concludes.

Applicant Communication During SOAP

SOAP-eligible applicants:

- Can access the *List of Unfilled Programs* only for positions for which they are eligible.
- Can apply only to unfilled Match-participating programs that are participating in SOAP.
- Are prohibited from using any means other than a program-designated application service to apply to and contact programs.
- Must refrain from communicating with programs until the program contacts the applicant
- Can receive multiple offers in a SOAP round.

Preparing for SOAP

- ✓ View the videos and SOAP resources on the NRMP web site so you fully understand SOAP process and policies.
- ✓ Update the Program Directory Information for your program in the R3 system.
- ✓ Identify staff to participate, if necessary, and ensure that those staff understand SOAP policies and procedures.
- ✓ Subscribe to the NRMP SOAP and Match Week Listserv.



2026 SOAP Guide for
Programs

Match Week and SOAP schedule

Monday, March 16

10:00 A.M. ET

Programs learn if they filled
Applicants learn if they matched

11:00 A.M. ET

SOAP applicants can start preparing and
designating applications

Tuesday, March 17

8:00 A.M. ET

Programs can begin viewing SOAP applications
and can contact applicants upon receipt of an
application

11:30 A.M. ET

Programs can begin creating preference lists in
the R3 system



Viewing Your Program Status

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Home Switch Options SOAP Rima Siddiqui

Unfilled Programs
SOAP Programs

Match Home Page

Institution: [Capitol University Hospital-DC - Washington, DC](#)
Role: Program Director
Username: [rsiddiqui](#)

You currently have 3 Active Programs in the Match. Click a Program Description to manage the Program.

Program Description	NRMP Program Code	Reversions	Program Status	Did My Program Fill?	Post Match Quota	Filled in Match	Original Unfilled	SOAP?
Anesthesiology	1802040A0	D0 R0	CERTIFIED	UNFILLED	3	0	3	Yes
Anesthesiology	1802040C0	D0 R0	CERTIFIED	UNFILLED	5	3	2	Yes
Anesthesiology	1802040R0	D0 R0	CERTIFIED	UNFILLED	2	1	1	No

Application Services in the Match



Checking Applicant Eligibility

In Applicant Match History:

- Search for Applicants you are considering interviewing for SOAP positions
- Search by NRMP ID, AAMC, ID, Name, Medical School
- Applicant Status messages:
 - Not SOAP Eligible
 - Eligible for all available positions in SOAP
 - Eligible for available positions in SOAP, except physician-reserved positions (R type)
 - Eligible for only PGY-1 preliminary or transitional year positions in SOAP
 - Eligible for only PGY-2 advanced positions in SOAP

Applicant Match History

The screenshot shows the NRMP Applicant Match History page. At the top, the 'Options' menu is open, with 'Applicant Match History' highlighted by a red arrow. Below the menu, there are search filters for Institution, Role (Program Director), Match Year, and Username. A red box highlights the 'Search for Multiple Applicants via Bulk Upload' button. Below this, there is a paragraph of text explaining the NRMP Match Participation Agreement. Further down, another red box highlights a search form with fields for NRMP ID, AAMC ID, First Name, Last Name, and School Name, along with a 'Click to Find School' button. At the bottom, a red arrow points to the 'Search' button.

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Applicant Match History

Institution: Match Year:

Role: Program Director

Username:

Applicant Match History

The NRMP Match Participation Agreement prohibits a program from discussing, interviewing for, or offering a position to an applicant who has obtained a concurrent year position in another program through the NRMP or who is ineligible as the result of a denied waiver or a confirmed violation. Applicants whose waiver requests are denied or who are found in violation of the Match Participation Agreement may be barred from accepting or starting a position in any program sponsored by a Match-participating institution, regardless of the program's Match participation status, if that position has a start date within one year from the date of the NRMP's decision. Any program that discusses, interviews for, or offers a position to that applicant to commence training during the one-year period will be in violation of the Match Participation Agreement.

Programs shall not discuss with an applicant or offer any potential position unless the program first has determined that the applicant is eligible for appointment. NRMP institutional officials and program directors shall determine the applicant's eligibility by verifying the applicant's PGY-1, PGY-2, or fellowship appointment status in the Applicant Match History. The Applicant Match History also will indicate whether an applicant has a waiver or violation history. Sanctions levied as the result of a denied waiver or a confirmed violation will be reflected in the Applicant Match History for one to three years or permanently, as determined by the NRMP. Term limits of any sanction(s) are included to identify the length of time the sanction is in effect.

The Applicant Match History can be used to conduct single or bulk searches of applicants:

- To conduct a single search, please enter search criteria below. If searching only by name, you must enter at least part of the First Name and at least two characters of the Last Name.
- To conduct a bulk search, click on the "Search for Multiple Applicants via Bulk Upload" button at the top of the screen. **The bulk search option offers an option for exact matching.**

NRMP ID (N#####)

AAMC ID (#####)

First Name

Last Name

School Name

Applicant Match History

The screenshot displays the NRMP Applicant Match History interface. At the top, the NRMP logo and navigation links (Home, Switch, Options) are visible. The main content area is titled "Applicant Match History" and includes a search bar and a "Search for Multiple Applicants via Bulk Upload" button. Below this, there is a section with text regarding the NRMP Match Participation Agreement and instructions for conducting searches. A search result table is shown at the bottom, with one row for "Garcia" at "University of Medicine and Health Sciences-St. Kitts (171495)". A red box highlights the name "Garcia" in the table, and a red arrow points to it. An "Applicant Details" modal window is open, showing the following information:

- Applicant Name: Garcia, [redacted]
- NRMP ID: NO [redacted]
- AAMC ID: [redacted]
- School: University of Medicine and Health Sciences-St. Kitts (171495)
- Main Residency Match: - Garcia, [redacted]
- Status: [redacted]
- Eligible for only PGY-2 advanced positions in SOAP (highlighted with a red box)
- Violations: No violation found.
- Waivers: No waiver found.

The modal also includes a "Close" button at the bottom. The background interface shows a table with columns for Name, School Name, NRMP ID, and AAMC ID. The "Garcia" row is highlighted, and a red box is drawn around the name "Garcia" in the "Name" column. A red arrow points from the "Garcia" text in the table to the "Eligible for only PGY-2 advanced positions in SOAP" text in the modal.

Applicant Match History

The screenshot displays the NRMP Applicant Match History interface. At the top, the logo for THE MATCH NATIONAL RESIDENT MATCHING PROGRAM is visible, along with navigation links for Home, Switch, and Options. The main content area is titled "Applicant Match History" and includes search filters for Institution, Match Year, Role (set to Program Director), and Appointment Year. A search button is present, and a table below shows search results. A pop-up window titled "Applicant Details" is open, showing information for an applicant named Hodgkin. The status of the applicant is highlighted in red.

Applicant Match History

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Applicant Match History

Institution: Match Year:
 Role: Program Director Appointment Year:
 Username:

Applicant Match History

The NRMP Match Participation Agreement prohibits a program from discussing, interfering through the NRMP or who is ineligible as the result of a denied waiver or a confirmed Agreement may be barred from accepting or starting a position in any program sponsor has a start date within one year from the date of the NRMP's decision. Any program sponsor period will be in violation of the Match Participation Agreement.

The Applicant Match History can be used to conduct single or bulk searches of applicants.

- To conduct a single search, please enter search criteria below. If searching for multiple applicants, click on the "Search for Multiple Applicants via Bulk Search" button.
- To conduct a bulk search, click on the "Search for Multiple Applicants via Bulk Search" button.

NRMP ID (#####)
 AAMC ID (#####)
 First Name
 Last Name
 School Name

Applicant Details

Applicant Name: Hodgkin:
 NRMP ID: NC
 AAMC ID:
 School: Stanford University School of Medicine (169)
 Main Residency Match - Hodgkin:
 Status
 Eligible for all available positions in SOAP

Close

There are 1 Applicants Matching your search query. Click any column header to sort by that column.

Name	School Name	NRMP ID	AAMC ID
Hodgkins	Stanford University School of Medicine (169)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

1 to 1 of 1 rows

< First < Prev Next > Last >

Creating a Preference List

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[Home](#)
[Switch](#)
[Options](#)
[SOAP](#)
[Rima Siddiqui](#)

SOAP Programs

Institution: [Capitol University Hospital-DC - Washington, DC](#)

Role: Program Director

Username: [rsiddiqui](#)

Institution Status: ACTIVE

NRMP Institution Code: 1802

ACGME Inst Code: 140333

You have 0 certified programs and 2 uncertified programs. Click any program to select it.

Programs List

	Program Name	SOAP Status	Certification Status
1802040A0	Anesthesiology	Unfilled (3)	Not Certified
1802040C0	Anesthesiology	Unfilled (2)	Not Certified

Creating a Preference List

THE MATCH
NATIONAL RESIDENT MATCHING PROGRAM

[Home](#) [Switch](#) [Options](#) [SOAP](#) [Rima Siddiqui](#)

SOAP Programs

Institution: [Capitol University Hospital-DC](#) - Washington, DC

Role: Program Director

Username: [rsiddiqui](#)

Institution Status: ACTIVE

NRMP Institution Code: 1802
ACGME Inst Code: 140333

Certify List

You have 0 certified programs and 2 uncertified programs. Click any program to select it.

Programs List

	Program Name	SOAP Status	Certification Status
1802040A0	Anesthesiology	Unfilled (3)	Not Certified
1802040C0	Anesthesiology	Unfilled (2)	Not Certified

List must be CERTIFIED to be active for the next round.

The list must be certified by {Certification date & time} to participate in the next round.

➔
Search SOAP Applicants

Preference List

Rank	AAMC ID	Name	School	Offer Status	Round No.

After selecting a program use "Search SOAP Applicants" to add applicants to your list. Then drag them into the order you desire.

Creating a Preference List

The screenshot shows the NRMP website interface. At the top, the logo 'THE MATCH NATIONAL RESIDENT MATCHING PROGRAM' is visible. Navigation links include Home, Switch, Options, SOAP, and a user profile for Rima Siddiqui. A 'Certify List' button is prominent. A modal window titled 'Applicant Search' is open, containing the following text: 'AAMC ID may not be available for all applicants. If an applicant cannot be found, use NRMP ID to search.' Below this text are four input fields: 'NRMP ID', 'AAMC ID', 'First Name', and 'Last Name'. At the bottom of the modal are three buttons: 'Enter Multiple NRMP IDs', 'Enter Multiple AAMC IDs', and 'Submit'. The background shows a table with columns for 'Rank', 'AAMC ID', and 'Round No.', and a 'Certification Status' column with 'Not Certified' entries. A message at the bottom of the modal states: 'You must Certify your list to participate in the next round.'

Creating a Preference List

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SOAP Programs

Institution: C
Role: F
Username: g
Institution Status: A

1802040A0
1802040C0

Applicant Search Results

Select the applicants you wish to add to your preference list by clicking the checkmarks and then Add to Preference List. Applicants who are ineligible for your program, who have accepted other offers, or who have already been added to your Preference List are grayed out.

AAMC ID may not be available for all applicants. If an applicant cannot be found, use NRMP ID to search.

Hide unavailable applicants

<input type="checkbox"/>	NRMP ID	AAMC ID	Name	School
<input type="checkbox"/>	N0924182	14662681	Brooks, Kelso	National School of Medicine and Health Sciences - Test School

Back to Search Add to Preference List

Preference List

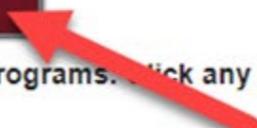
Rank	AAMC ID	Name	School	Offer Status	Round No.
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After selecting a program use "Search SOAP Applicants" to add applicants to your list. Then drag them into the order you desire. You must Certify your list to participate in the next round.

Creating a Preference List



 -
 Home
 Switch
 Options -
 SOAP -
 Rima Siddiqui

Certify List 

You have 0 certified programs and 2 uncertified programs. Click any program to select it.

Programs List			
Program ID	Program Name	SOAP Status	Certification Status
1802040A0	Anesthesiology	Unfilled (3)	Not Certified
1802040C0	Anesthesiology	Unfilled (2)	Not Certified

List must be CERTIFIED to be active for the next round.
 The list must be certified by {Certification date & time} to participate in the next round.

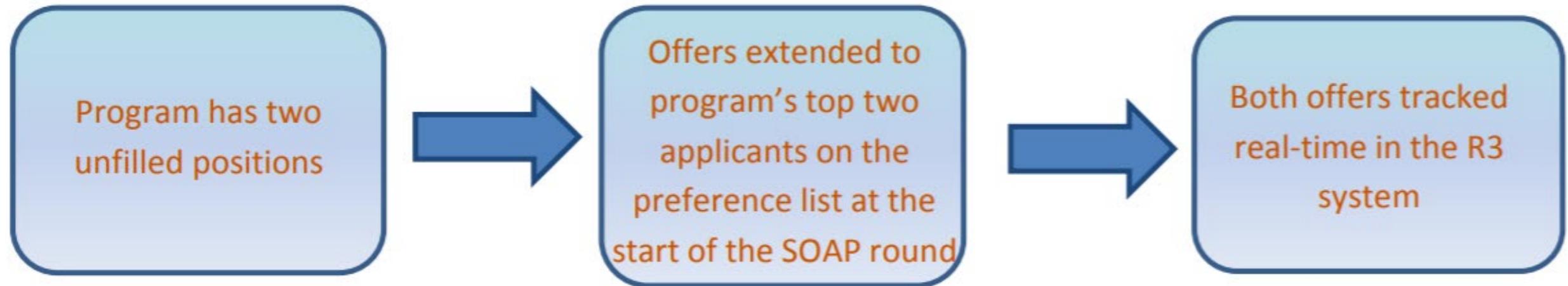
[Search SOAP Applicants](#)

Preference List

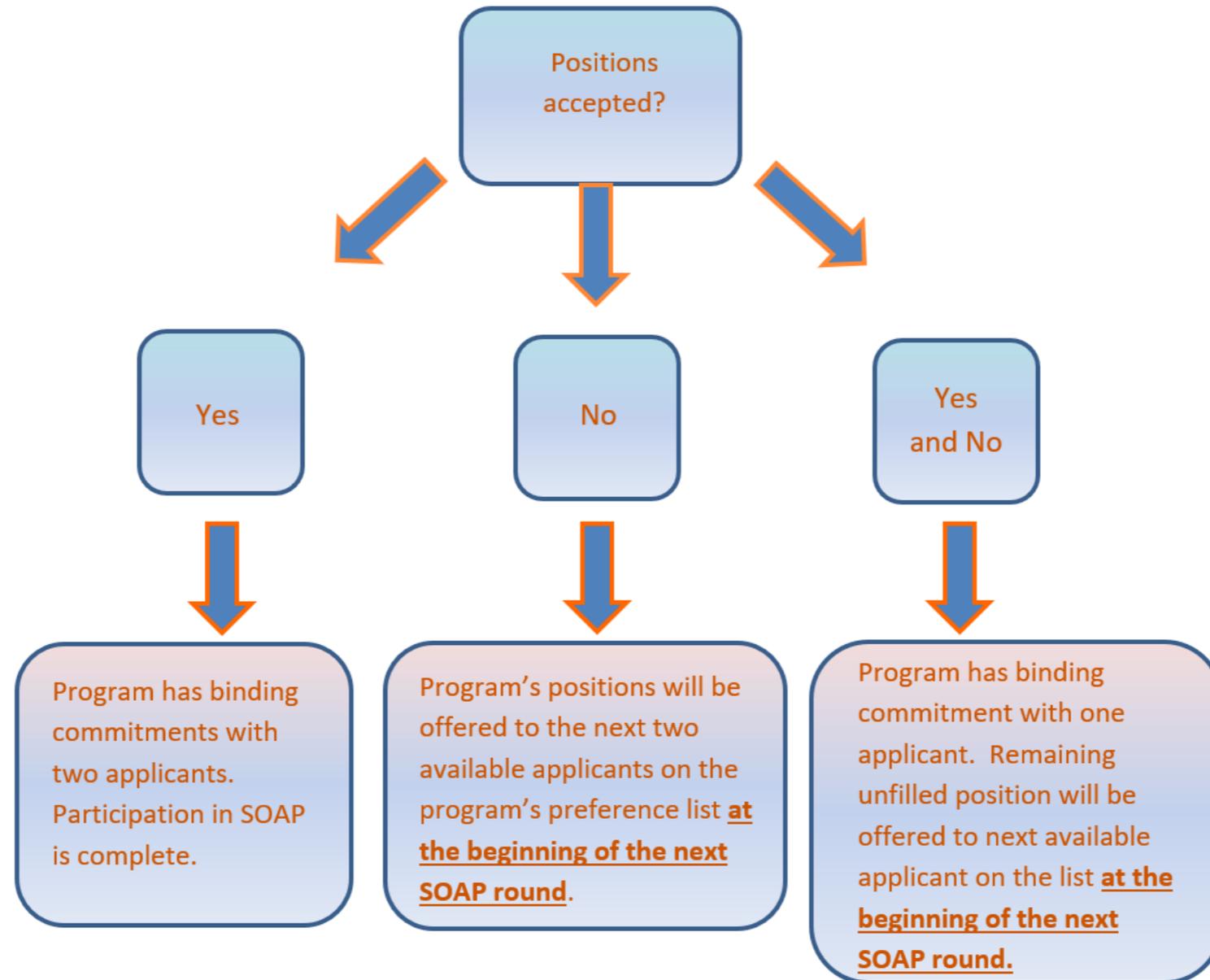
After selecting a program, use "Search SOAP Applicants" to add applicants to your preference list.
 Once added, use the drag and drop feature to place applicants in your desired order.
 AAMC ID may not be available for all applicants.
 You must Certify your list to participate in the next round.

	Rank	NRMP ID	AAMC ID	Name	School	Offer Status	Round No.	
	1	N0924182	14662681	Kelso Brooks	National School of Medicine and Health Sciences - Test School	Available		Delete
	2	N0979382	13793496	Arianna Townsend	National School of Medicine and Health Sciences - Test School	Available		Delete
	3	N1003436	15023361	Meghan Dunbar	National School of Medicine and Health Sciences - Test School	Available		Delete
	4	N0993220	14958819	Katherine Perez	National School of Medicine and Health Sciences - Test School	Available		Delete

How SOAP Rounds Work



How SOAP Rounds Work



Offer Rounds Thursday, March 19

Round 1 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. ET

8:55 a.m.	Deadline to certify preference list for Round 1 offers
9:00 a.m.	Applicants receive offers
11:00 a.m.	Applicant deadline to accept or reject offers

Round 2 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. ET

11:55 a.m.	Deadline to modify and re-certify preference list for Round 2 offers
12:00 p.m.	Applicants receive offers
2:00 p.m.	Applicant deadline to accept or reject offers

Round 3 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. ET

2:55 p.m.	Deadline to modify and re-certify preference list for Round 3 offers
3:00 p.m.	Applicants receive offers
5:00 p.m.	Applicant deadline to accept or reject Round 3 offers

Round 4 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. ET

5:55 p.m.	Deadline to modify and re-certify preference list for Round 4 offers
6:00 p.m.	Applicants receive offers
8:00 p.m.	Applicant deadline to accept or reject Round 4 offers

Monitoring & Updating Preference Lists



Home Switch Options SOAP Rima Siddiqui

[Uncertify List](#)

You have 1 certified programs and 1 uncertified programs. Click any program to select it.

Programs List			
Program ID	Program Name	SOAP Status	Certification Status
1802040A0	Anesthesiology	Unfilled (3)	Certified
1802040C0	Anesthesiology	Unfilled (2)	Not Certified

List is CERTIFIED and ready for the next round.
To make changes, uncertify the list.

Preference List

After selecting a program, use "Search SOAP Applicants" to add applicants to your preference list.
Once added, use the drag and drop feature to place applicants in your desired order.
AAMC ID may not be available for all applicants.
You must Certify your list to participate in the next round.

Rank	NRMP ID	AAMC ID	Name	School	Offer Status	Round No.
1	N0924182	14662681	Kelso Brooks	National School of Medicine and Health Sciences - Test School	Available	Delete
2	N0979382	13793496	Arianna Townsend	National School of Medicine and Health Sciences - Test School	Available	Delete
3	N1003436	15023361	Meghan Dunbar	National School of Medicine and Health Sciences - Test School	Available	Delete
4	N0993220	14958819	Katherine Perez	National School of Medicine and Health Sciences - Test School	Available	Delete

Monitoring & Updating Preference Lists

SOAP Programs

Institution: [Henrico Univ Hlth Sys-VA](#) - Richmond, VA
 Role: Program Director
 Username: [dcarr123](#)
 Institution Status: ACTIVE

NRMP Institution Code: 1743
 ACGME Inst Code: 140666

Uncertify List

You have 1 certified programs and 0 uncertified programs. Click any program to select it.

Programs List

Program ID	Program Name	SOAP Status	Certification Status
1743320C0	Pediatrics	Unfilled (2)	Certified

List is CERTIFIED and ready for the next round.
To make changes, uncertify the list.

Preference List

Rank	Name	School	Offer Status	Round No.
	Eric Mellon	National School of Medicine and Health Sciences - Test School	Accepted	1
	Michelle Young	National School of Medicine and Health Sciences - Test School	Accepted	1
	Morgan Blake	National School of Medicine and Health Sciences - Test School	Offer Sent	1
1	Monica Mitrook	National School of Medicine and Health Sciences - Test School	Available	
	Christopher Conway	National School of Medicine and Health Sciences - Test School	Rejected	1
	Kelso Brooks	National School of Medicine and Health Sciences - Test School	Unavailable	

After selecting a program use "Search SOAP Applicants" to add applicants to your list. Then drag them into the order you desire.
You must Certify your list to participate in the next round.

After the Rounds

Thursday, March 19

8:30 P.M. ET

Programs can update the number of unfilled positions to be displayed on the *List of Unfilled Programs*

9:00 P.M. ET

SOAP Ends

Updated *List of Unfilled Programs* available to applicants to include remaining unfilled SOAP programs and unfilled programs not participating in SOAP



Note: Program *Confidential Roster of Matched Applicants* will be released (by email and R3 system) on Thursday at 2:00 p.m. ET.

Updating the *List of Unfilled Programs*

The screenshot displays the 'View Program Details' page for a program at West Tennessee Univ-TN - Memphis, TN. The page includes a navigation bar with 'Unfilled List' and a user profile for Riley Fitzhugh. Below the program details, a menu is visible with 'Update Unfilled' highlighted in a red box.

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United States – Registration, Ranking, and Results @ (R3 @)

View Program Details

Institution: [West Tennessee Univ-TN - Memphis, TN](#)
Role: Program Director
Username: [rfitzhugh](#)
Institution Status: ACTIVE
Program Name: Family Med/Rural
Program Type: Categorical
Program Status: **CERTIFIED**

NRMP Institution Code: 2066
ACGME Inst Code: 140999
NRMP Program Code: [2066120C1](#)
ACGME Program Code: 1209966331
SOAP Participation: Yes

Rank Order List

Update Unfilled

Status

Quota

Change Requests & Approvals

Updating the *List of Unfilled Programs*

The screenshot displays the NRMP website interface. At the top, the logo for 'THE MATCH NATIONAL RESIDENT MATCHING PROGRAM' is visible. Navigation links include Home, Switch, Options, Unfilled List, SOAP, and a user profile for Riley Fitzhugh. The current page is titled 'United States - Registration, Ranking, and Results ©(R3 ©)'. The main content area is divided into two sections: 'View Program Details' and 'Rank Order List'. The 'View Program Details' section shows information for 'West Tennessee Univ-TN - Memphis, TN', including the role of Program Director, username rfitzhugh, and various codes. The 'Rank Order List' section contains an 'Update Unfilled' form. This form asks 'Did My Program Fill?' with a dropdown set to 'UNFILLED'. Below this, a message states 'Your Program currently has 3 unfilled positions. Update the number of unfilled positions shown to the Public.' A text input field labeled 'Current Unfilled' contains the number '3'. At the bottom of the form are two buttons: 'Cancel' and 'Set Current Unfilled', with a red arrow pointing to the latter.

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View Program Details

Institution: [West Tennessee Univ-TN - Memphis, TN](#)
Role: Program Director
Username: [rfitzhugh](#)
Institution Status: ACTIVE
Program Name: Family Med/Rural
Program Type: Categorical
Program Status: **CERTIFIED**

NRMP Institution Code: 2066
ACGME Inst Code: 140999
NRMP Program Code: [2066120C1](#)
ACGME Program Code: 1209966331
SOAP Participation: Yes

Rank Order List

Update Unfilled

Did My Program Fill? **UNFILLED**

Your Program currently has 3 unfilled positions. Update the number of unfilled positions shown to the Public.

Current Unfilled

Post SOAP

All applicants who are unmatched or partially matched will have access to the *List of Unfilled Programs*.

Applicants apply to remaining unfilled programs.

Programs can create positions **ONLY** for partially-matched applicants beginning at 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Thursday

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Specialty	Unfilled Programs	Unfilled Positions
Anesthesiology - R	1	1
Child Neurology - A	3	3
Child Neurology - C	1	1
Child Neurology - R	6	6
Emergency Medicine - C	3	4
Internal Medicine - P	1	4
Neurodevelopmental Disabilities - A	1	2
Neurodevelopmental Disabilities - R	1	1
Neurology - R	1	1
Nuclear Medicine - A	1	1
Osteopathic Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine - R	1	1
Radiation Oncology - A	6	7
Radiology-Diagnostic - A	5	7
Radiology-Diagnostic - R	2	3
Surgery-General - P	1	2
Thoracic Surgery - C	1	1

35 program(s) found with 45 currently unfilled position(s)

Program Type Legend
 C - Categorical programs that begin in the PGY-1 year and provide the full training required for specialty board certification.
 P - Preliminary one-year programs that begin in the PGY-1 year and provide prerequisite training for advanced programs.
 A - Advanced programs that begin in the PGY-2 year after a year of prerequisite training.
 R - Physician reserved programs for physicians who have had prior graduate medical education. Reserved programs offer PGY-2 positions that begin in the year of the Match and thus are not available to senior medical students.
 M - Categorical programs in primary care medicine and primary care pediatrics that begin in the PGY-1 year and provide the full training required for specialty board certification.

Match Day!

Friday, March 20

12:00 P.M. ET

Medical school Match Day ceremonies

*Program Match Results by Ranked Applicant
and SOAP Programs Preferred Applicants*
available in R3 under Options → Reports

Applicant Match results available

Advance Data Tables available



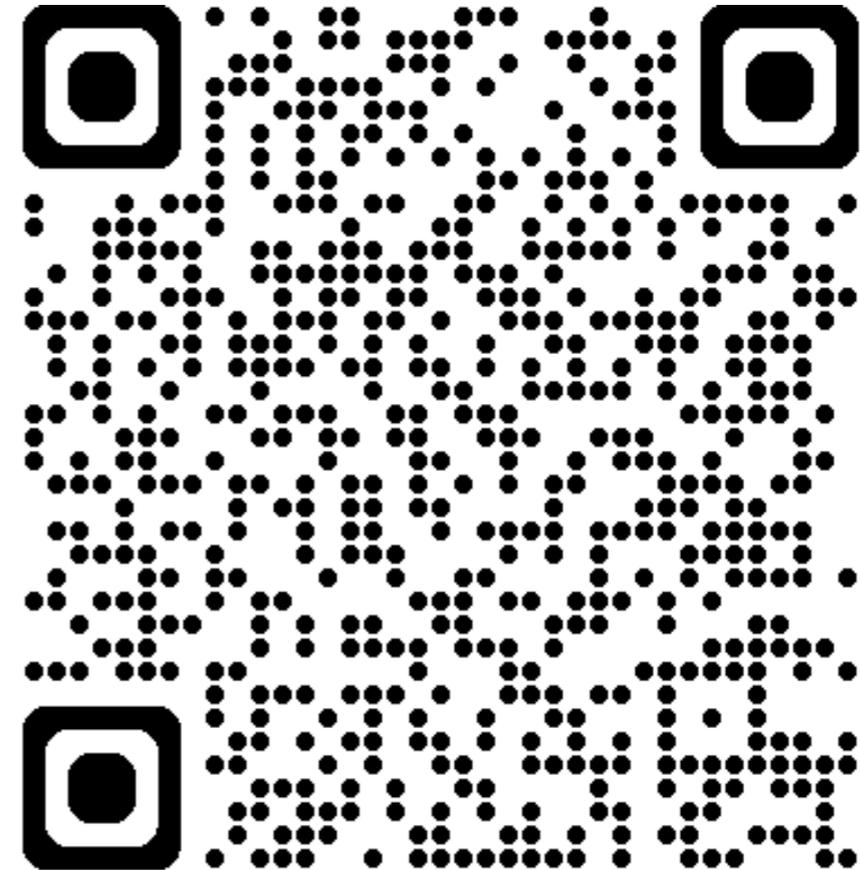
Print, save, and archive Match reports for future use

Reminder! The Match Commitment is Binding

Match Participation Agreement Section 10.0 WAIVER OR DEFERRAL OF MATCH RESULTS

Applicants and programs are not authorized to release each other from the binding commitment.

If for any reason an applicant or program cannot or will not honor the binding commitment a waiver or deferral must be requested from the NRMP.



[Requesting A Waiver/Deferral](#)

NRMP Video Resources & Support Guides

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United States – Registration, Ranking, and Reservations

- Add/Maintain Program Coordinators
- Adding a Program
- Changing Quota & Program Details
- Creating Joint Advanced/Preliminary Tracks
- Entering & Certifying a Program Rank Order List
- How the Matching Algorithm Works Video
- Navigating the R3 System
- Reversions
- Reversions Video
- Search Current Match Applicants
- SOAP for Programs Video
- SOAP: Creating a Preference List
- SOAP: Monitoring a Preference List
- SOAP: Setting SOAP Participation
- Token Redemption - Existing Users
- Updating Unfilled Positions
- Using Applicant Match History
- Using the Program Directory
- Verify Email Address
- Withdrawing & Reinstating a Program

Match Year: 2022

Main Residency Match and Specialties Matching Service
Users:
Institutional Officials (IOs)
Institutional Administrators (IAs)
Program Directors (PDs)
Program Coordinators (PCs)

Entering and Certifying a Program Rank Order List

The NRMP matching algorithm uses the preferences expressed in the rank order lists submitted by applicants and program directors to place individuals into program positions.

Guidelines for Preparing a Program Rank Order List:

- Program directors should rank only applicants whom they wish to train in their programs.
- Applicants should be ranked in preferred order, with the most preferred applicant ranked first, according to the program's true preferences. Do NOT rank based on how you think the applicant will rank the program.
- Factors to consider in determining the number of applicants to rank include the competitiveness of the specialty, the program, and the specific applicants being ranked.

Applicants can be added to a rank order list in three ways: using NRMP or AAMC ID, using the Find & Add Applicant function, and importing a file.

To review each method and learn how to search and certify a rank order list, click the titles below:

- [Adding an Applicant Using NRMP or AAMC ID](#)
- [Adding an Applicant Using Find and Add Applicant](#)
- [Importing Applicants from a File](#)
- [Searching a Rank Order List](#)
- [Certifying a Rank Order List](#)

Jan 26	Rank order list entry begins at 12:00 noon ET.
Mar 02	Rank Order List Deadline and deadline to withdraw from the Main Residency Match! Rank order lists must be certified no later than 9:00 p.m. ET.
Mar 18	Match Day! Match results released in R3® system at 12:00 noon ET.

[Click here](#) for the complete Main Residency Match Calendar

Questions?



2026 SOAP Guide for Programs

Thank You and Good Luck in the Match!



www.nrmp.org
support@nrmp.org
866-653-6767

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