



Introduction to the NRMP Specialties Matching Service (SMS)

Presenting by:

Courtney Crenshaw, Sr. Client Support Specialist

Josephine (Joy) Gaabucayan, Director of Policy and Compliance

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

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

Agenda

1. Introduction
2. The SMS Match Process
3. Institution Roles & Responsibilities
4. SMS Match Schedules
5. Registration
6. Signing Match Participation Agreement
7. Activation of Institutions & Program
8. Set-up and Quota Changes
9. Match Policy



NRMP Matching Programs

2026 Main Residency Match®

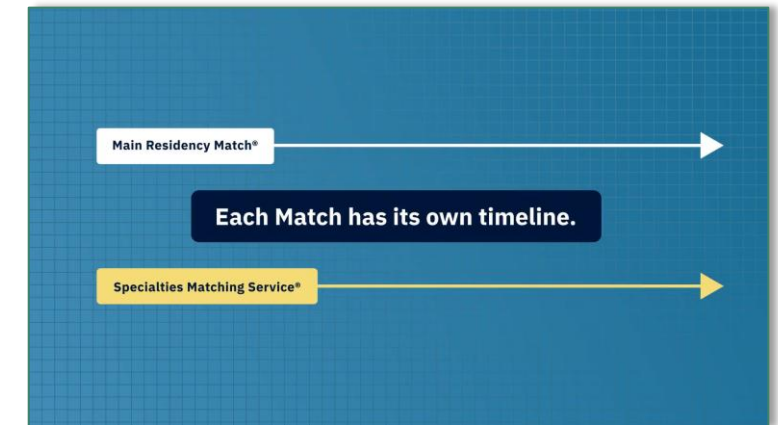
- 48,050 active applicants
- 6,809 programs
- 44,344 PGY-1 and PGY-2 positions
- 84.7% positions filled between Match and SOAP

Specialties Matching Service® (SMS) - 23 Fellowship Matches

- 81 subspecialties for the 2026 appointment year fellowship positions
- 15,358 positions (84.4%) were filled
- 6,606 programs (75.6%) filled all positions
- 15,846 active applicants participated in at least one Fellowship Match

Match Schedule

Match Opens at noon, ET	All Program and Institution users receive an email with a token code link or their username
Ranking Opens at noon, ET	Ranking function in the R3 system opens for both applicants and programs
Quota Change Deadline at 11:59 p.m. ET	Deadline for changes to the quota (the number of positions you intend to fill in the Match) Program Withdrawal Deadline
Rank Order List Certification Deadline at 9:00 p.m. ET	Deadline for both applicants and programs to enter and certify the ROL
Match Day at noon, ET	Results are released in the R3 system for both applicants and programs. Unfilled/Unmatched Lists released





The Role of the NRMP

- ✓ Registration for the Match
- ✓ Enter Ranking Preferences
- ✓ Production of Match Results

Match Roles and Responsibilities

- **Institutional Official (IO):** provides oversight for all programs in the Match, activates the Institution and/or programs, and approves changes (usually the ACGME DIO)
- **Institutional Administrator (IA):** assists the IO with administering programs in the Match
- **Program Director (PD):** manages the program's participation in the Match including activating programs, adding program tracks, entering reversions, changing the quota, certifying the rank order list (ROL), and editing a certified ROL
- **Program Coordinator (PC):** assists the PD with administering the program including viewing program details, entering the ROL, and updating program information



Only one program coordinator can be designated per program in R3.

Registration for SMS Matches



Registration Emails Sent by NRMP

- New Users: Receive a token link to create an R3 account.
- Returning Users: Receive their username for login.



Institution Activation

- IO must activate the institution before programs can be activated.
- PDs and IAs can activate program tracks once institution is active



Security Reminder

- Each user must have an individual account.
- Sharing login credentials violates the Match Participation Agreement.

New to Registration: Multi-Factor Authentication

The NRMP has implemented multi-factor authentication (MFA) for all users logging into the R3 system.

Why MFA?

- Strengthens account security by requiring a second form of verification beyond your password.
- Protects sensitive Match data including rank order lists, results, and reports.
- Aligns with industry best practices for data protection.
- Helps prevent unauthorized access, even if a password is compromised.



Getting Started – the R3[®] System

The screenshot displays the The Match website interface. At the top, a navigation bar includes the logo, a 70th Anniversary banner, and links for About, Policies, FAQs, and Match. A prominent yellow button labeled 'LOG IN/REGISTER' is highlighted with a red arrow. Below this, a dark blue header features the logo, a user icon, and links for 'Login', 'Register for Residency', and 'Register for Fellowship Match'. A teal banner indicates the current location: 'United States – Registration, Ranking, and Results ®(R3 ®)'. The main content area is titled 'All Returning Users' and contains instructions for users with existing credentials. Below the instructions are input fields for 'Username' and 'Password', both marked as required. A 'Login' button is positioned below these fields. At the bottom, a calendar section lists key dates: 'APR 17 09:00 PM ET' for 'Rank Order List Certification Deadline' and 'MAY 01 12:00 PM ET' for 'Match Day', each with an 'ADD TO CALENDAR' button.

THE MATCH
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70th Anniversary | About | Policies | FAQs | Match | **LOG IN/REGISTER** | Search

Intro to The Match | Match Calendars | Residency Applicants | Fellowship Applicants | Programs & Institutions | Medical Schools | Match Data & Analytics

Main Residency Applicants | Main Residency Programs & Institutions | Fellowship Participants | Medical Schools

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

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

All Returning Users

* Required

Applicants and Staff from Institutions, Hospitals, Programs, or Schools. If you have already created a Username and Password for a current Match, enter them here.

Applicants with login credentials from a previous Match must register for each new Match in which you plan to participate. Select the appropriate "Register" option to proceed.

* Username: ?

* Password: ?

[I forgot my Username or Password](#)

Login ▶

APR 17
09:00 PM ET

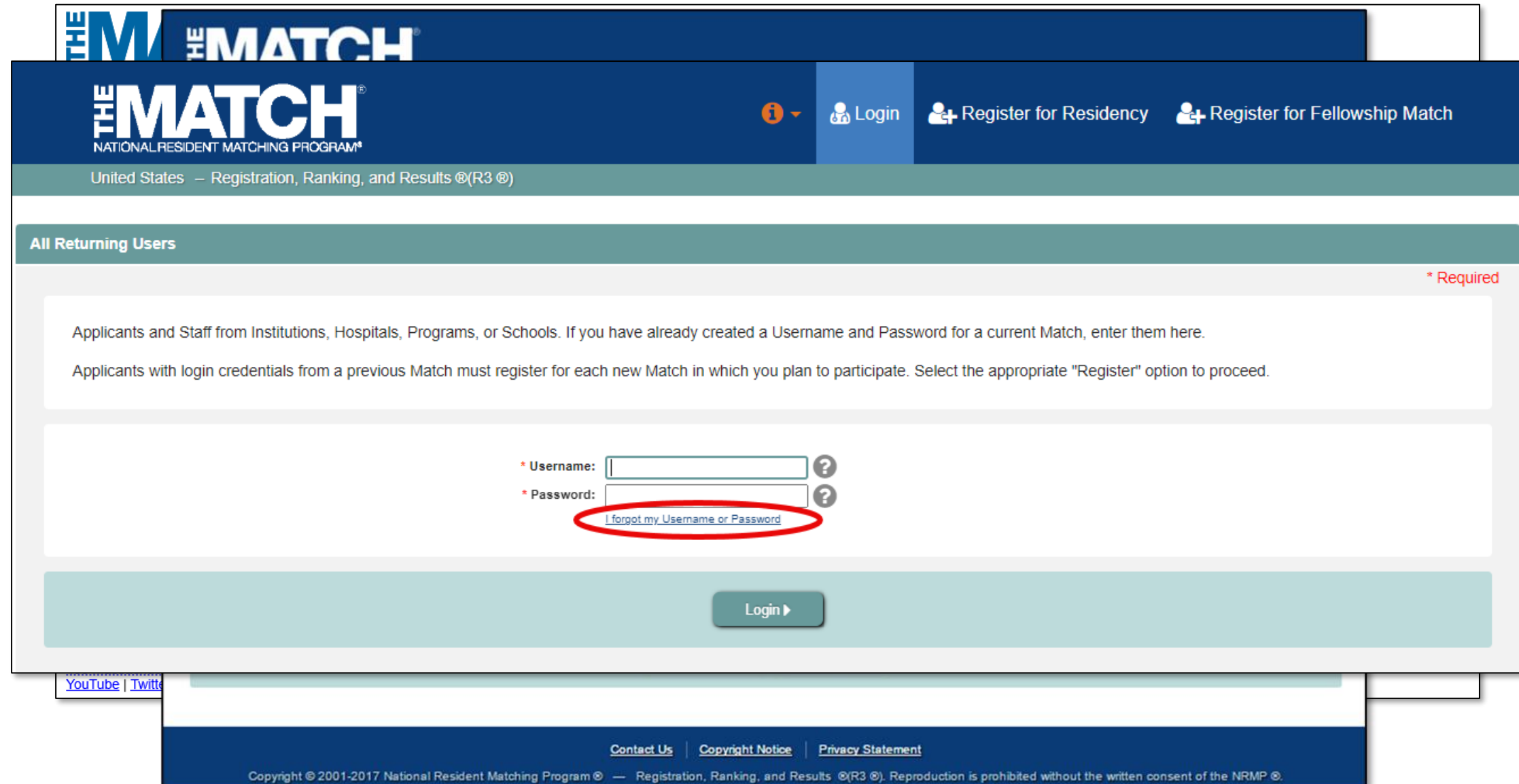
Rank Order List Certification Deadline

MAY 01
12:00 PM ET

Match Day

REPRODUCTION OF SLIDES AND DATA PROHIBITED WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM THE NRMP

Token Link & Registration



The screenshot shows the login page of The Match website. The header features the 'THE MATCH' logo and navigation links for 'Login', 'Register for Residency', and 'Register for Fellowship Match'. Below the header, a teal bar indicates the current location: 'United States — Registration, Ranking, and Results ®(R3 ®)'. The main content area is titled 'All Returning Users' and contains instructions for returning users. It includes a login form with fields for 'Username' and 'Password', both marked as required. A red circle highlights the link 'I forgot my Username or Password' below the password field. A 'Login ▶' button is positioned below the form. The footer contains social media links for YouTube and Twitter, and a copyright notice for the National Resident Matching Program.

THE MATCH
NATIONAL RESIDENT MATCHING PROGRAM®

United States — Registration, Ranking, and Results ®(R3 ®)

All Returning Users

* Required

Applicants and Staff from Institutions, Hospitals, Programs, or Schools. If you have already created a Username and Password for a current Match, enter them here.

Applicants with login credentials from a previous Match must register for each new Match in which you plan to participate. Select the appropriate "Register" option to proceed.

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* Password: ?

[I forgot my Username or Password](#)

Login ▶

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Match Participation Agreement


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


Gomez Addams - TEST

Match Registration

Institution: National Medical Center-Test Institution - Washington, DC

Role: Institution Administrator

Username: gomez_addams

Match Participation Agreement

Match Participation Agreement for Institutions

Specialties Matching Service® (SMS®)

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- 2.0 Institution Leadership
 - 2.1 Institutional Official
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- 3.0 Programs in the Specialties Matching Service
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 - 3.2 Categories of Program Positions
 - 3.3 Program Leadership and Staff
- 4.0 Terms and Conditions for Participation in the Specialties Matching Service
- 5.0 Registration Dates and Match Fees
 - 5.1 Registration Dates
 - 5.2 Match Fees
- 6.0 Participation in the Specialties Matching Service
 - 6.1 Duty to Act in a Professional and Ethical Manner
 - 6.2 Completeness, Timeliness, and Accuracy of Information
 - 6.3 Confidentiality
 - 6.4 Restrictions on Persuasion
 - 6.5 Program Quota, Tracks, and Reversions
 - 6.6 Withdrawal from the Match

force and effect.

Failure of any party to act or exercise its rights under this Agreement upon the breach of any other terms hereof by any other party is not to be construed as a waiver of such a breach or prevent such party from later enforcing compliance with any or all of the terms hereof. This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the Matching Program and its results. Any representations, promises, or conditions not incorporated in this Agreement will not be binding upon any of the parties. No modification of this Agreement shall be effective unless in writing and executed by the party against whom it is to be enforced.

• Password:

Cancel Registration

I Accept

Match Participant Agreement

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Before you accept the terms of the following Match Participation Agreement ("Agreement"), we urge you to read it thoroughly. Once you execute the Agreement and the NRMP registration, the Agreement becomes a binding contract. **Failure to comply with all conditions of the Agreement, whether intentionally or not, may result in a violation and the imposition of penalties. (Section 12.0)**

You are responsible for reading the entire Match Participation Agreement. As areas are highlighted in this Important Notice for your specific attention. Included are:

- Programs participating in the Main Residency Match must register and attempt to fill positions in the Match or another national matching plan. Programs also must select senior students ("sponsored applicants") only through the Match or another national matching plan. (Section 3.2)
- The NRMP is not an employment service and does not guarantee positions for applicants and training programs. In addition, training programs are responsible for establishing and communicating all program and position requirements. (Section 4.0)
- All programs who participate in the Match are expected to complete the Match Certification Deadline complete, timely, and accurately. Programs are responsible for an applicant's decision to rank a program. Information provided by the applicant would sign and institutional policies, procedures, requirements, drug screening protocols, and background checks.

18.0 General

If any provision of this Agreement is found in any arbitration jurisdiction to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, that provision shall be deemed null and void, and the remaining provisions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect, provided that the removal of the invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision is necessary to achieve the purpose originally intended, and the removal of the provision does not materially alter the essential purpose of the Agreement. If any remedy set forth in the Agreement is not permitted by applicable law, then all other provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

Failure of any party to act or exercise its rights under this Agreement by any other party, is not to be construed as a waiver of the right to enforce compliance with any or all of the terms of the Agreement between the parties with respect to the Match. No modification of this Agreement shall be effective unless in writing and executed by the party against whom it is to be enforced.

By entering your password and clicking I Accept, you agree that you have read and understood and agree to the Terms and Conditions of the Match Participation Agreement.

I ACCEPT CANCEL



Match Participation Agreement for Programs

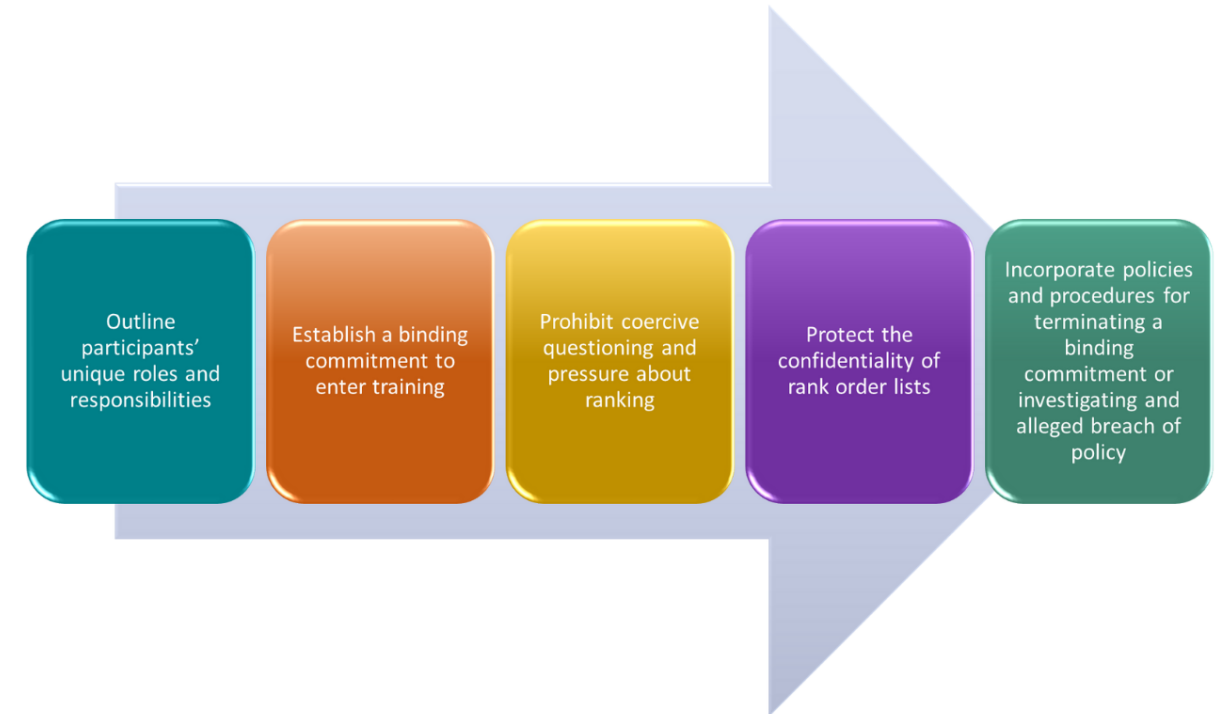
**Specialties Matching Service® (SMS®)
For All Matches Opening After January 1, 2026**

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- 1.0 [Introduction](#)
- 2.0 [Eligibility](#)
- 3.0 [Match Positions and Participants](#)
 - 3.1 [Categories of Program Positions](#)
 - 3.2 [Program Leadership and Staff](#)

Why Policy Matters

- NRMP policies promote a fair and equitable Match experience
- Participants can consider all options before making commitments
- Participants are prohibited from engaging in coercive or unwarranted pressure
- An impartial venue exists for matching participants' preferences
- Participants are held accountable for ethical and professionally responsible behavior



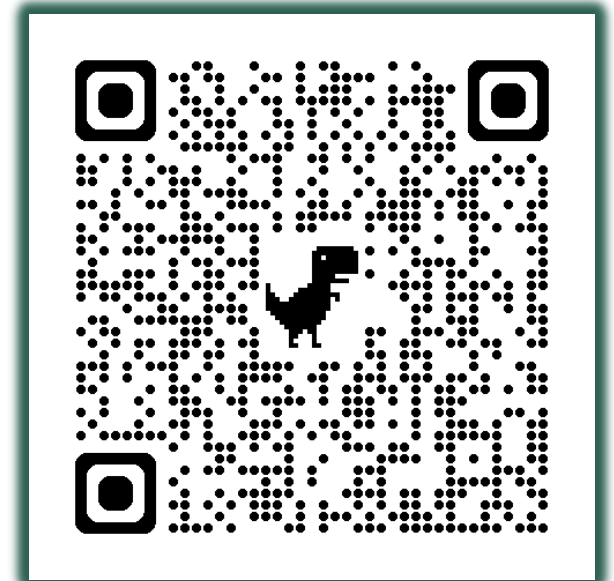
Match Policy – Professionalism

Section 6.1 Duty to Act in an Ethical and Professional Manner

All Match participants are required to conduct their affairs in an ethical and professionally responsible manner. The duty under this Agreement:

- 1. Extends throughout the registration, application, interview, and matching processes; and*
- 2. Through the 45th day following the start date of training as listed in the appointment contract; or*
- 3. Upon conclusion of any NRMP-related waiver review, violation investigation, or appeal process.*

**Match Code of
Conduct for
Programs**



Match Policy- Interviews

Section 6.2 Interview Period Policy

During the recruitment phase programs shall:

- 1. Extend interview offers that equal, but not exceed, the total number of available interview slots*
- 2. Provide applicants no less than 48 hours to accept or reject an interview invitation*
- 3. Apply reasonable measures of notification (e.g., one-to-two weeks' notice) when needing to cancel or reschedule an interview*

Match Policy

Applicant Match History (in the R3 system)

Programs should determine whether an applicant is eligible for appointment prior to offering interviews or if an applicant has a waiver/violation history.

Information available in the R3 system year-round.

Note: Applicants who have not participated in an NRMP Match will not appear in search results

View Applicant Match History

• To conduct a single search, please enter search criteria below. If searching only by name, you must enter at least part of the First and Last Names.
 • 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 (#####)
 AAMC ID (#####)
 First Name
 Last Name
 School Name

+ Click to Find School

Reset Search

There are 7 Applicants Matching your search query Click any column header to sort by that column.

Name	School Name	NRMP ID	AAMC ID
Adams-Doolittle, Benjamin	Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine-Virginia Campus (621)	N0260354	13038469
Doolittle, Derrick	University of Nebraska College of Medicine (149)		12622160
 Doolittle, Eliza	National School of Medicine and Health Sciences - Test School (100)	N0211942	11507822
Doolittle, Jeffery	University of Mississippi School of Medicine (147)		10175812
Doolittle, Matthew	University of Illinois College of Medicine at Urbana-Champaign (903)		10210986
Doolittle, Othniel	Southern Illinois University School of Medicine (810)		12292729
Doolittle, Rose	McGovern Medical School at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (809)	N0141224	12965993

1 to 7 of 7 rows

« First « Prev Next » Last »

Definition of alert symbols:

 This Applicant was found to be in violation of the NRMP Match Participation Agreement. For further information, please view the Applicant Match History.

Program Codes

Every program has a unique 9-11-character code:

- Characters 1-4: the institution code
- Characters 5-7: the ACGME specialty code
- Character 8: program type letter
- Character 9-11: track number

Ex: 1000445F0



Provide the NRMP program code to applicants to assist them in ranking your program(s).

Match Home Page


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

Home
Options
Gomez Addams - TEST

Match Home Page

Institution: [National Medical Center-Test Institution - Washington, DC](#)
 Role: Program Director
 Username: [gomez_addams](#)

Match Year:
 Appointment Year:

You currently have 0 Active Programs in the Match.

Program Description	NRMP Program Code	Program Status	Program Director	Reversions	Current Quota
Pediatric Surgery	1000445F0	⚠ INITIAL	Gomez Addams - TEST (Pledged on Feb 13, 2023)	D0 R0	2

Match Event	Start Date	End Date
? Register	08 Feb 12:00 PM EST	19 Apr 09:00 PM EDT
? Rank	22 Mar 12:00 PM EDT	19 Apr 09:00 PM EDT
? Match Computation	19 Apr 09:00 PM EDT	03 May 12:00 PM EDT
? Match Results	03 May 12:00 PM EDT	03 Nov 12:00 AM EDT
? Closed	03 Nov 12:00 AM EDT	

View Program Details

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   Home  Options  Gomez Addams - TEST

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

View Program Details

Institution: [National Medical Center-Test Institution - Washington, DC](#)

Role: Program Director

Username: [gomez_addams](#)

Institution Status: INITIAL

Program Name: Pediatric Surgery

Program Type: Fellowship

Program Status: INITIAL

Match Year:

Appointment Year:

NRMP Institution Code: 1000

ACGME Inst Code:

NRMP Program Code: [1000445F0](#)

ACGME Program Code: 4451000222

Status

Quota

Change Requests & Approvals

Program Director/Coord

Program Directory Information

Reversions

Program Activation

The institution and programs must both be active in the Match before ranking can occur. Activation should be completed promptly after the Match opens for registration.



All program information rolls over from the previous Match



The Institution must be activated by the IO before programs can be activated



PDs and IAs can now activate program tracks for participation in the Match or set as not participating



IOs must activate non-ACGME-Accredited Fellowship programs



Programs cannot make any updates until the program has been activated



IOs will receive and must approve program status change requests made by PDs and IAs

Program Activation

The institution and programs must both be active in the Match before ranking can occur. Activation should be completed promptly after the Match opens for registration.

Institution Information

Username:

Match Year:

Institution Name: [Health Science Center - Little Rock, AR](#)

Appointment Year:

Institution Status: ACTIVE

NRMP Institution Code: 1018

ACGME Inst Code: 047601

Institution Status

Institution Programs

You currently have 0 Active Programs in the Match.

[Add New Program](#)

Program Description	NRMP Program Code	Program Status	Program Director	Reversions	Current Quota	Last MY/Status
Pain Medicine	1018530F0	⚠️ Activate Not Part	Jamie Smith (Pledged on Jul 23, 2025)	D0 R0	1	2024 CERTIFIED
Pain Medicine/Military Funded	1018530F1	⚠️ Activate Not Part	Jamie Smith (Pledged on Jul 23, 2025)	D0 R0	1	

Quota Changes

Quota = Number of positions to be filled in the Match

- Quota information rolls over from the previous Match
- PD is responsible for confirming quota and making any changes
- PD must be registered before the Quota Change Deadline to review or change quota
- IO is responsible for approving all quota changes

Quota Changes & Withdrawals

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Home

Options

Gomez Addams - TEST

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

View Program Details

Institution: [National Medical Center-Test Institution - Washington, DC](#)

Role: Program Director

Username: [gomez_addams](#)

Institution Status: ACTIVE

Program Name: Pediatric Surgery

Program Type: Fellowship

Program Status: ACTIVE

Match Year:

Appointment Year:

NRMP Institution Code: 1000

ACGME Inst Code:

NRMP Program Code: [1000445F0](#)

ACGME Program Code: 4451000222

Status

Current Program Status

ACTIVE

Withdraw ▶

Quota

Change Requests & Approvals

Program Director/Coord

Program Information

- Review program director/coordinator and update, if necessary
 - Updates can be made by your GME office or
 - By email to support@nrmp.org if the information is correct on ACGME. Email to NRMP must contain program information, new contact's name, email address, and date of birth
- Ensure Program Directory Information is updated: address, email, website
- Program Directory Information also will be in the *List of Unfilled Programs* if your program does not fill when the Match is run

Program Information

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Home Options Gomez Addams - TEST

Program Directory Information

Program Address

Program Address ☐ Use Institution Address

* Country

Mail Stop

* Street Address Line 1

Street Address Line 2

Street Address Line 3

* City / Town

* State

* Zip / Postal Code

Program Contact Information

Public Phone Number

Public Fax Number

Public Email Address

Program URL

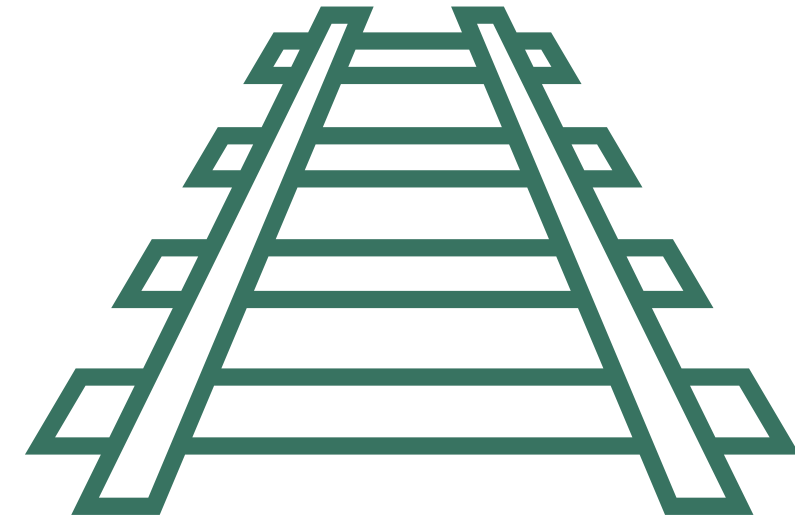
Program Directory Information

Reversions

Program Set-up Options

Tracks

- Based on needs of programs
- Can be created by the PD, IA, or IO. Must be activated by the PD, IO, or IA for participation
- Examples: combined training, program length, location, research, rural, external funding, etc.
- Reversions can be created to guard against being unfilled



Program Set-up Options

Reversions

- Donate unfilled positions in one program or track to another during the matching process
- Reversions must be created each year
- Donor program creates the reversion
- If used, the rank order list of the recipient program is used to fill the positions donated
- Cannot revert more than the current program quota
- Both programs must certify a rank order list
- Reversions must be approved by IO

Match Policy-Accurate Information

Section 6.3 Complete, Timely, and Accurate Information

Programs must provide complete, timely, and accurate information to applicants interviewed, including a copy of the contract and all institutional policies and requirements to successfully onboard.

- *Pre-employment testing (e.g., illicit drug screening), background checks (e.g., criminal, financial, etc.), Visa sponsorship, and any other requirement(s)*
- *This must be provided prior the Rank Order List Certification Deadline*
- *Must be able to demonstrate the information provided to the applicants*
- *Must demonstrate Attestation from Applicant*
- *Applicants must provide Complete, Timely, and Accurate Information*

Match Policy-Persuasion

Section 6.5 Restrictions on Persuasion

Programs cannot

- 1. Request applicants reveal names, specialties, geographic locations, or other identifying information about programs to which applicants have or may apply or have signaled.*
- 2. Request applicants reveal information pertaining to the interviews offered, accepted, declined, or attended. Programs cannot request applicants' ranking intentions.*
- 3. Solicit verbal or written statements implying a commitment to rank the program. Programs may voluntarily communicate that an applicant is viewed favorably and will be ranked.*

Ensure all recruitment team members are aware of policies.

Match Policy- Reminders

- Do not overbook interviews, provide applicants at least 48 hours to respond and provide reasonable notice for cancellations or rescheduling
- Provide Complete, Timely, & Accurate information
 - Prior to Rank Order List Certification
 - Communicate all onboarding requirements
 - Obtain and retain acknowledgment/attestation
- Focus recruitment conversations on applicant qualifications and program fit.
 - Do not ask about: Ranking preferences, Preference signals, Other programs or specialties interviewed or interested in

When questions arise, contact the Policy Department for guidance and support Policy@nrmp.org



Coming Soon!!

Part 2: “Ranking & Results Webinar”

- Ranking Process
- Match Algorithm
- Match Day

Questions?



THANK YOU and Good Luck in the Match!



www.nrmp.org

support@nrmp.org

866-653-NRMP

Policy@nrmp.org

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