
Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program® (SOAP®)

2023 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 the AAMC® (Association of American Medical Colleges®) delivers SOAP applications through the Electronic Residency Application Service® (ERAS®).

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, 2023, 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 applicant's SOAP eligibility status will display on Monday, March 13, with the applicant's matched status.

Prepare for SOAP

To prepare for 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 ERAS 2023 application season) by Monday, March 13, 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 13, 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 13.
- Applicants can only apply to programs on the *List of Unfilled Programs* and only through the ERAS system.
 - 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 programs for the *entire* SOAP process.
 - The 45-application limit includes new and previous programs that the applicant applied to during the ERAS 2023 application season.
- Applicants cannot withdraw an application after it has been submitted. All applications will count toward the 45-application limit.
- **Applicants and individuals acting on their behalf *cannot* communicate with programs until programs initiate contact 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.

- 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 applications that the majority of positions are filled during the first SOAP Offer Round.

SOAP Events Timeline

Day	Time	NRMP	ERAS
Monday, March 13	7:30 a.m. ET		MyERAS is <i>not</i> accessible.
	10 a.m. ET	<p>Applicants learn if they matched (by email and R3 system).</p> <p>SOAP-eligible unmatched and partially matched applicants have access to the <i>List of Unfilled Programs</i> (under the SOAP tab in the R3 system).</p>	<p>MyERAS is <i>not</i> accessible.</p> <p>Applicants are encouraged to consult their medical schools for assistance.</p>
	11 a.m. ET	<p>Reminder: Applicants and their representatives cannot initiate communication with a program until the program receives an ERAS application and contacts either the</p>	<p>MyERAS is accessible.</p> <p>SOAP applicants can start preparing applications.</p> <p>Make sure to assign any necessary documents,</p>

		applicant or the applicant's representative during SOAP.	including USMLE and/or COMLEX-USA scores.
Tuesday, March 14	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. <i>Applicants do not submit a preference or rank order list for SOAP.</i>	
Wednesday, March 15	All day		Applicants may continue to apply to programs. SOAP programs can continue reaching out to applicants.
Thursday, March 16	9 a.m. ET	SOAP Offer Round 1 Starts Applicants begin receiving offers. Applicants accept or reject offers via the R3 system.	Applicants are <i>unable</i> to apply during Offer Rounds in MyERAS.
	11 a.m. ET	SOAP Offer Round 1 Ends Applicant deadline to accept or reject Round 1 offers. <i>List of Unfilled Programs</i> 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 begin receiving offers.	Applicants are <i>unable</i> to apply during Offer Rounds in MyERAS.

		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. <i>List of Unfilled Programs</i> 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 begin receiving offers. Applicants accept or reject offers via the R3 system.	Applicants are <i>unable</i> to apply during Offer Rounds in MyERAS.
5 p.m. ET	SOAP Offer Round 3 Ends	Applicant deadline to accept or reject Round 3 offers. <i>List of Unfilled Programs</i> 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 begin receiving 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	Post-SOAP <i>List of Unfilled Programs</i> will include all remaining unfilled programs (including those not participating in SOAP). This <i>List</i> is available in the R3 system on the top	SOAP applicants cannot continue to apply to programs with their allotted 45 applications. ERAS resumes normal operations.

		<p>menu for all unmatched and partially matched applicants, regardless of SOAP eligibility.</p> <p>All unmatched applicants can contact programs directly about remaining unfilled positions.</p>	<p>MyERAS is accessible to <i>all</i> applicants to apply to programs.</p>
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Additional Resources and Support

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

ERAS: [Resources](#) | Support: [ERAS Client Technical Support](#), 202-862-6264 | [@ERASInfo](#)

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