ERAS® Applicant SOAP® Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

PRE-SOAP

Where can I get information about the Match Week Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program® (SOAP®)?
- Please review information on the National Resident Matching Program® (NRMP®) and ERAS® program webpages.

Is there anything I can do to prepare for applying to programs during SOAP?
- Please review the ERAS Applicant Checklist for SOAP.

ELIGIBILITY

How do I know if I am eligible to participate in SOAP?
- On Monday, March 16 at 10 a.m. ET, you will learn your match status (by email and the NRMP Registration, Ranking, and Results® (R3®) system). If you are SOAP-eligible unmatched or partially matched, you can access the *List of Unfilled Programs* in the NRMP Registration, Ranking, and Results® (R3®) system.

If I have not registered for the ERAS program, can I participate in SOAP?
- Yes, if you are registered with the NRMP, and the NRMP has indicated that you meet the eligibility requirements to participate in SOAP. You will need to get a token from your designated dean's office and register in the ERAS system.
- Once you are registered in the ERAS system and log in on Monday, March 16 at 11 a.m. ET, you will be prompted to confirm your SOAP participation.
- If you ARE participating in SOAP, select "I am registered for the NRMP Main Residency Match and am participating in SOAP."
- If you ARE NOT participating in SOAP, select "I am not participating in SOAP."
- Applicants who are not set to participating in SOAP will not be able to take action in the MyERAS® system.
- While we recommend that you certify and submit your MyERAS application prior to the start of the NRMP Match Week and SOAP, you may take this action after the ERAS system opens on Monday, March 16 at 11 a.m. ET.

How do I know which programs and tracks I am SOAP-eligible for?
- The ERAS system no longer receives applicants' SOAP eligibility information. All programs participating in the NRMP SOAP process will be displayed in the MyERAS system. Please refer to the NRMP R3 system for the list of programs you are eligible for in-between rounds and use the MyERAS program search filters for specific tracks and/or NRMP program codes.

I'm SOAP eligible. Can I apply to positions outside of SOAP?
- No, SOAP-eligible applicants can only apply to SOAP-participating programs (those with unfilled positions in the NRMP's Main Residency Match®) via the ERAS program.

I'm SOAP ineligible. Can I still apply to programs?
- Yes, during SOAP you may apply to programs not participating in the Main Residency Match. You will be subjected to the regular application fee structure for ERAS residency applicants.

FEES

Is there a fee for SOAP?
- If you applied to at least one residency program (for the 2026 ERAS season) by Monday, March 16, at 7:30 a.m. ET, you will **not** pay any application fees during SOAP.

What if I did not apply to a residency program before SOAP. Is there a fee to use the ERAS program?
- If you did not apply to at least one residency program by Monday, March 16, and you are SOAP-eligible, 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.

If I use my 45 applications during SOAP, can I pay for additional applications to use during SOAP?
No, you cannot apply to additional SOAP programs once you have reached the 45-program maximum. Please only apply to tracks you are eligible for and check the NRMP R3 system in between rounds.

TIMELINE

Where can I find the SOAP schedule?
- Please review the 2026 ERAS program SOAP Schedule.

When can I submit applications during SOAP?
- SOAP-eligible applicants can apply Monday, March 16 at 11 a.m. ET through Thursday, March 19 at 9 p.m. ET.

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS

How many applications do I have for SOAP?
- SOAP-eligible applicants can apply to 45 programs from Monday, March 16 at 11 a.m. ET through Thursday, March 19 at 9 p.m. ET. Applicants cannot withdraw applications to replace or exceed the allotted 45 programs.

Can I reapply to programs I applied to during the regular ERAS season?
- Yes, you may apply to programs previously applied to prior to SOAP by doing the following:
  - Log into your MyERAS® account.
  - From the Programs menu, select "Reapply to Programs."
  - Select the programs you would like to reapply to.
  - Select "Reapply to Programs" and follow the prompts.
- Please note, the program must participate in SOAP and have unfilled positions that you are eligible for.
- As a reminder, LoRs assigned to a program during the regular season cannot be unassigned.

Can I reapply to programs in SOAP that I already applied to during SOAP?
- No. You can only apply to a program once during SOAP. If a program has received your application during SOAP, the program will have your information on file for all future rounds.

APPLICATIONS

Can I make changes to my application during SOAP?

- You cannot make changes to your application once you have certified and submitted it in the MyERAS system. The personal information section will remain available for updates and edits as usual. Please refer to the Specialty Questions webpage for more context if you are considering applying to Anesthesiology, Neurosurgery, or Plastic Surgery – Integrated during SOAP.

Can I create a new personal statement for SOAP/different specialties/programs?

- Yes, you may update or create new personal statements and assign them to different specialties/programs.

Can I use program signals when applying to programs during SOAP?

- No, program signals are not available during SOAP.

Can I upload new Letters of Recommendation (LoRs) for SOAP?

- Yes, you can upload new letters of recommendation. Once you have applied to a program, you cannot unassign LoRs.

Can I can transfer completed LoRs between the ERAS system and the application system used by Obstetrics and Gynecology and Emergency Medicine programs?

- Yes, during 2026 SOAP, applicants can transfer completed LoRs including Standardized Letters of Evaluation, between the ERAS system and the application system used by Obstetrics and Gynecology (OBGYN) and Emergency Medicine (EM) programs.
  - All LoRs transferred between residency application systems during SOAP will indicate the system into which they were originally uploaded.
- Applicants who received LoRs in the ERAS system during the main application cycle and plan to participate in SOAP for OBGYN or EM need to:
  - Indicate SOAP eligibility in the MyERAS portal.
  - Authorize release of their LoRs from the MyERAS portal to the system used by OBGYN/EM programs.
  - Assign the imported LoRs within that system as required by those programs.
- Applicants who received LoRs in the OBGYN/EM application system during the main application cycle and need to participate in SOAP for a different specialty must:
  - Authorize release of their LoRs in that system.
  - Indicate SOAP eligibility in the MyERAS portal.
  - Assign the imported LoRs within the MyERAS system to their designated SOAP programs.
  Note: Applicants will not be able to access the content of these LoRs. They will only have access to identifying information such as the author name, LoR type, and received date. Transferred letters appear as completed and ready to assign shortly after release.

HELP

If you have any questions, please contact the AAMC Support Center (202-862-6264) Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. ET.