Understanding ERAS and The Match

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1st Things 1st

Stay in Touch!

You must make yourself available to communication from the Office of Student Affairs and the Registrar, as well as ERAS, the NRMP and residency programs.

Primary line of communication (from us) will be through your UT Houston email—check this religiously.

For urgent matters we will contact you via pager or cell phone. Please make sure this information is current in UTLink.
1st Things 1st

ERAS and the NRMP – What are they?

**ERAS**
- Electronic Residency Application Service
- Main system for transmitting application materials for *most* specialties, including military applications

**NRMP**
- National Resident Matching Program
- Main system for processing rank order lists (ROL) for *most* specialties

Other Matching Programs
- Military
- SF Match
- Urology
1st Things 1st

ERAS

- www.aamc.org/eras/

- An application processing service used by >95% of residency programs, including military and urology matches.

- Entire application is web based

- All students should sign up with ERAS even if you are in the military or doing one of the independent matching programs. (You may withdraw your application at any time if you early match).
1st Things 1st

NRMP

- [www.nrmp.org](http://www.nrmp.org)
- Registration opens August 15, 2012
- Unless told otherwise... All applicants need to register with the NRMP in order to match.
  - The only exception would be those who are fully matched via the military match.
- The NRMP is separate from ERAS and requires its own registration fees.

Application Timeline

2012
- Early June
  - June 15
- July 1
- August 1
- August 15
- September 15
- October 1
- November 30

2013
- January
- March
- SF Match
- Urology Match
- Interviewing
Roster Photos

Wednesday June 6 9:00AM – 1:00PM
Thursday June 7 9:00AM – 11:00AM
               1:00PM – 4:00PM
Thursday June 14 9:00AM – 1:00PM
Friday June 15 9:00AM – 11:00AM
               1:00PM – 4:00PM

Contact Communications at (713) 500-5530 to make your appointment.

These photos will be used for your residency application as well as the photo roster that will hang in the “Graduates Gallery.”

If you are unable to attend one of these sessions, you will need to make your own appt., at your expense. Approx. $18.
ERAS Tokens

By early June, I will have access to the ERAS system and will begin formatting the Tokens that will identify you as students at UT-Houston.

You should receive an automated email on or around June 30th that is identified as coming from me. In this email you will have instructions on how to login to the system and when to begin your application.
ERAS Opens for Applicants

Your ERAS Responsibilities \textit{(MyERAS)}

- Common Application Form (CAF)
- Personal Statement
- USMLE Transcript (transmitted by NBME)
- Selecting Programs
- Requesting Letters of Recommendation (LoR)
- Order Med School Transcript \texttt{(UTLink)}
  - Attn: Steve Jones, MSB G.400
  - Special Instructions: For ERAS, print on plain paper

My ERAS Responsibilities

- Issue Tokens
- Upload Photograph
- Upload Med School Transcript
- Upload Medical Student Performance Evaluation \texttt{(MSPE)}
MyERAS Work Areas

- My Home Page
- My Profile (always editable)
- My Application (not editable once submitted)
- My Documents
  - Personal Statement(s)
  - Letters of Recommendation (LoR)
  - USMLE Transcripts
- My Programs
- My Reports

https://services.aamc.org/eras/myeras2013/
Documents

Personal Statement

➢ At this point you should have a solid draft of your personal statement(s) requiring only minor tweaks.

Curriculum Vitae (CV)

➢ Please email your CV to Kendall.McKee@uth.tmc.edu in the Office of Student Affairs. This will be utilized in writing your MSPE, and the sooner we have this the better.

http://med.uth.tmc.edu/students-current/match-graduation/supportdocs.htm
Documents

USMLE Transcript

➢ You should be aware of your own Step scores and how/when your program may view them. You have the option in ERAS to release new scores as soon as they become available, or to wait and release them once you’ve had the chance to review.

➢ Most programs want to see Step 2 CK scores prior to ranking, so keep this in mind. Recommended deadline is 12/31.

➢ Note: It is in your best interest to take CS and CK as early as you are ready to take them. CS is **NOT** an English proficiency exam.
Documents

Letters of Recommendation (LoR)

- You should be thinking about who you want to write your letters (3rd-year clerkships) if you haven’t already done so.
- Should be faculty (not residents or fellows) that you have worked with who gave you a solid evaluation and positive comments about your performance.
- Plan to do an APC (or elective if APC is not offered in your specialty) as early as possible for additional LoR.
- ERAS will allow you to designate up to four LoR (including a Chair’s letter if required).
- The MSPE is **NOT** an LoR.
Documents

Letters of Recommendation (LoR) cont.

- Applicants participating in the NRMP or other match that uses ERAS to transmit application documents should provide a copy of the ERAS cover page to each LoR writer. Since your letters will be uploaded by the author directly you need to give them the LoR coversheet generated by ERAS.

- Applicants participating in one of the Early Match programs, not using ERAS, should create and give address labels to each LoR writer so that the LoR can be sent directly to the appropriate location as indicated by that matching program.

- Note: Suggested deadline for ERAS LoR is October 1
Blue Book (BB) Review

- Make it a point to stop by the Office of Student Affairs to review your BB. In addition to the CV, we review your BB when writing the MSPE.

- On the first page of your BB there is room for you to indicate any lecture series or other BB-activities in which you’ve participated to this point that are not already included in your file.

- BB review should be done no later than August 15
Faculty Advice

Set up an appointment with a Residency Advisor or Program Director (PD) in your specialty and discuss:

- Your competitiveness
  - Be open and honest about your situation

- How many (and which) programs to apply
  - The PD knows that you will apply programs other than theirs—don’t be afraid to ask about the competitiveness of other programs/locations. There is no formal source that rates residency programs.

- Letters of Recommendation (LoR)
Competitive Specialty?

If you are applying to one of the following specialties, please contact Yolanda Clay at (713) 500-5165 to make an appointment to meet with Dr. Lahoti to discuss your application plans.

- Dermatology
- Diagnostic Radiology
- Neurological Surgery
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopaedic Surgery
- Otolaryngology
- Plastic Surgery
- Radiation Oncology
- Urology
Documents

Medical School Transcript

- By this time most, if not all, of your 3rd-year clerkship grades should be on your transcript.

- Order one transcript through [UTLink](#) to be sent to Steve Jones, MSB G.400. Under special instructions, indicate that the transcript is “For ERAS, print on plain paper.” The transcript is $5.

- You may release additional transcripts as new grades appear, but I suggest that you wait until October before doing so.
The Office of Communications will send me a CD with all of your photos so that they can be uploaded and ready to go on September 15th.

It is your responsibility to have your photo taken during one of the scheduled photo sessions. If you do not schedule a time during one of these sessions the sitting fee (~$18) will be at your expense.
Applications Available

- Program Directors will begin downloading applications for review.

- Programs with many resident positions available (Medicine, Surgery, Pediatrics) may begin offering interviews at this time.

- For most programs, LoR are not required at this time in order to consider your application. Take the time to know each of your programs and their individual deadlines.

### Application Timeline

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**2013**
- January
- March

SF Match
Urology Match
Interviewing
MSPE, a.k.a. Dean’s Letter

- The MSPE is not an LoR so you do not need to request it or assign it to your programs

- The MSPE is a Medical Student Performance Evaluation

- The MSPE includes your performance in:
  - Basic Sciences
  - Clerkships
  - Medical School extracurricular activities and honors

- Don’t forget that we need you to review your BB and provide us a copy of your CV
MSPE

- Around September 1st we will begin uploading individual MSPE as they are completed—don’t be concerned if yours isn’t uploaded until the 30th.

- On October 1st the MSPE is released automatically through the ERAS and SF Match systems.

- Military Match: I need a written request if your program requires a paper copy.
NRMP Registration Deadline

- The regular registration deadline for the NRMP is November 30, 2012.

- A late fee of $25 will be assessed for registrations that occur after this date.

Everyone, unless told otherwise by your early matching program, should register with the NRMP.
Rank Order List (ROL)

- There will be a meeting to discuss the intricacies of entering your ROL in mid-January.

- Ranking will begin ~ January 15th and will close ~ 3rd week of February.
Match/Scramble

- March 8 (Friday before Match Week) – Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program (SOAP) email will be sent to **ALL** eligible applicants. Has no bearing on Match/No-Match status.

- March 11 - Match/no match information is released, and SOAP begins

- March 12 – Telephone interviews begin

- March 13 – First offers sent

- March 15 (Friday) – Match Day
SF Match

Early Matching Program

Specialties Include

➢ Ophthalmology

http://www.sfmatch.org
SF Match

General Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialty</th>
<th>CAS Target Date</th>
<th>ROL Due</th>
<th>Match Results</th>
<th>Begins</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Registration for the Central Application Service (CAS) begins June 1, 2012.

The documents that make up the application may differ depending on the specialty you are applying to. Be sure you understand what is required for you by checking the SF Match website.

You **must** register with the NRMP in order to secure your PGY-1 year.

http://www.sfmatch.org
Urology Match

- An Early Match Specialty
- Registration begins early summer.
- Uses ERAS for Document Transmission
- May be required to register with the NRMP in order to secure your PGY-1 year. Make sure you understand what is required for the programs you apply to.
- Deadlines for the 2012-13 application season have not been announced.

http://www.auanet.org/content/residency/residency-match.cfm
Interviewing

- Interviewing may begin for some as early as late September, and continue as late as early February

- Majority of interviews occur November – January

- Time off for interviewing is not guaranteed
  - You may ask for up to 2 days off during a required month – for interviewing only
  - You may ask for up to 5 days off during an elective – for interviewing only
  - You may be required to make up any missed days regardless of reason