2026 Main Residency Match® Medical School Checklist

[Resources and support guides](#) to assist you with the Match process are available at www.nrmp.org.

Applicants Research Programs in the Program Directory
June – September

- **Program information will be updated in the [Program Directory](#) for applicants to view.** The directory provides the application service requirements of Match-participating programs along with other key program information including location, links to the institution and program websites, NRMP program code, and program type.

Registration
Main Residency Match Applicant and Medical School Registration opens: September 15, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. ET

- **[Register for the Match](#).** Users must not share their username and password.

  - **New School Official/Administrator:** Create your individual account in the Registration, Ranking, and Results® (R3®) system using the token link sent by email when Match Registration opens.

  - **Returning School Official/Administrator:** Log in to the R3 system when Match Registration opens by entering your username and password.

- **[Set a school administrator](#).** If desired, school officials can add or update a school administrator to assist with the matching process. The administrator must create an individual account. It is a Match violation if the administrator uses the school official's log in credentials to access the R3 system.

- **Remind students to register for the Match.** Students must register with both NRMP and ERAS® or the application service required by the program. Standard registration for the Match is available September 15, 2025 – January 30, 2026, for the $70 registration fee; after January 30, an additional $50 late registration fee will be charged.

- Share **["The Match Process"](#)** and **["How the Matching Algorithm Works"](#)** videos with students for an overview of the Match and encourage them to review the **[applicant resources](#)** and the **[Match calendar](#)**.

- Ensure all staff involved in assisting students with the matching process understand and adhere to the terms of the **Match Participation Agreement** and **Code of Conduct**.

- View the **medical school resources.**

- **Like and follow the NRMP** on Facebook, X, or LinkedIn for reminders and updates. Use #Match2026 in social media posts.

- **Track the registration and participation of students by uploading rising seniors.** Functionality to upload the student list begins at 8:00 a.m. ET on October 1, 2025.

- **For students who use ERAS, remind them to enter their NRMP ID in their MyERAS Personal Information section.** Students can send the ERAS application without an NRMP ID, but they should log back into ERAS to provide it so programs can find them easily during the ranking process. It is also recommended applicants add their AAMC ID in their NRMP profile.

Credential Verification and Ranking

Rank order list opens and credentials verification begins: February 2, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. ET

- **Begin verifying student/graduate graduation credentials.** Students who will not be eligible to enter graduate medical education on July 1, 2026, or who have matched in the military selection process must be **withdrawn** from the Match by the Rank Order List Certification Deadline.

Deadline to verify graduation credentials: March 4, 2026, at 9:00 p.m. ET

- **Advise students on creating their rank order list (ROL).** Students should rank programs in order of their TRUE PREFERENCE, not where they think they will match.

Rank Order List Certification Deadline: March 4, 2026, at 9:00 p.m. ET

- **Learn about the Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program® (SOAP®)** and join the Match Week and SOAP Listserv.

- **Encourage the school's communications department to join NRMP's communications staff email list** to receive Match Week press releases and data. Email media@nrmp.org with their name, institution, and email address.

Results
Match Week: March 16-20, 2026

- **Review the school's Match results and assist unmatched students through the SOAP process.** *Unmatched Applicants* report will be available on Monday, March 16, at 9:30 a.m. ET. The report is embargoed until your students find out if they matched.

- **Prepare Match Day letters.** *Match Results for Seniors/Graduates* report and Match Day letters will be accessible in the R3 system on Thursday, March 19, at 8:00 a.m. ET. The information cannot be shared.

- **Monitor unmatched students' activity in SOAP** by viewing the *SOAP Schools* report in the R3 system. The report is available beginning at 9:00 a.m. ET on Thursday, March 19.

- **Confidential *Advance Data Tables* report.** This report will be available at 10:00 a.m. ET on Friday, March 20, in the R3 system.

- **Celebrate Match Day**! Match Day is Friday, March 20. Schools may release results at Match Day ceremonies beginning at 12:00 p.m. ET. Results are also available to students in the R3 system and by email at 12:00 p.m. ET.