Class of 2017 Meeting

Ranking Tips!

January 31 and February 9, 2017

Jason Bergschneider
Lee Todd Miller, M.D.
Overview of Session

1. Important Dates and Deadlines

1. NRMP Logistics
   • Advice
   • Costs
   • Couples Matching

2. Demystifying the Process: The NRMP Algorithm!

1. Avoiding Sticky Situations!

1. The SOAP process at UCLA

1. Recap and Questions
**Important Dates**

Jan 15  Rank Order List opened on Web

Feb 20  Last day we advise you touch your list!

Feb 22  Applicant lists and Program lists are due by 5:59 PM L.A. time (PDT)
Friday, March 10th

9:00 AM  **Email** notification from NRMP to **ALL** students regarding *eligibility* for the SOAP process.

**EVERYONE GETS THIS EMAIL**—it does **NOT** mean you did not match!
Overview of Match Week Timeline

Monday, March 13, 2017 – Start of Match Week
• Applicants find out if they matched
• Program directors find out if all positions filled
• The **SOAP** Process begins = **Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program** begins with a release of the List of Unfilled Programs

Thursday, March 16, 2017
• Deans and Program Directors receive their Confidential Roster of Matched Students and Applicants
• SOAP process concludes at 8 AM PDT

Friday, March 17, 2017 – Match Day
• Match Results released at 9:00 AM PDT
• Celebrate!
Monday, March 13

~7:30AM  Phone call from Lee on your cell phone to let you know if you did NOT match

8:00AM  All applicants can log on to NRMP to learn IF you have matched to a program

11:00AM  SOAP process begins for unmatched students (Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program)
Rest of Match Week

Tuesday  SOAP Interviews/Communication

Wednesday SOAP Offers Begin

Thursday SOAP process ends
Scholarship Day at Geffen Hall

Friday Match Day at Geffen Hall

Note: The SAO is Closed All Week (March 13 – 17)
Senior Week

Wed, May 31       Senior Banquet (all students)
Thurs, June 1     Drew Banquet
Fri, June 2       Hippocratic Oath Ceremony (all students)
Monday, June 5    Drew Graduation Ceremony
NRMP LOGISTICS
NRMP Costs

NRMP Registration Fee: $75 (late fee +$50)

Main Rank List: Up to 20 Programs included
$30 for each additional program

Supplemental List: (preliminary programs)
Up to 20 Programs included
$30 for each additional program

Couples Match: Additional $15 fee per individual
Up to 20 Programs each included
$30 per couple for each additional program
Couples Match

If going through couples match, make sure to meet with Lee and Jason to discuss strategies.

Important Take Home Points from the NRMP

1. Rank all of the programs you really want, without regard to your estimate of your chances with those programs.

2. Include a mix of both highly competitive and less competitive programs within your preferred specialty.

3. If you are applying to a competitive specialty and a back-up specialty… and you want to have a residency position in the event you are unsuccessful in matching in your preferred specialty… also rank programs in your alternate specialty.
Rank Lists Imperatives

1. Rank a **minimum** of 10 programs

1. Algorithm is not dependent on length

1. Order should be in YOUR preference
   - First Choice is YOUR #1 - not the “national rank”

2. Safe programs go at the end of your list

NO... You don’t want to go through SOAP!
Unmatched Seniors, PGY-1 Positions in SOAP

More Unmatched Seniors than PGY-1 Positions = 4 Years

![Graph showing the number of U.S. Seniors With ROLs Unmatched to PGY-1 Positions and PGY-1 Positions in SOAP from 2007 to 2016. The graph indicates that there are more unmatched seniors than PGY-1 positions for the years 2007 to 2016.]

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DEMYSTIFYING THE PROCESS
Making Your Rank List: Getting Started

http://www.nrmp.org/residency/applicant-toolkit/

Video tutorial of creating a rank list
The Algorithm

• An Applicant Proposing System
• System goes down the applicant’s list and makes tentative matches on the Program list
• Continues until all applicants have had their list completed or “tentative” match is made
• “Stable” Match when applicant and programs have their highest preference, and then it gets locked

http://www.nrmp.org/match-process/match-algorithm/
Algorithm Example

- Eight UCLA students applying in Internal Medicine
- Four Training Programs, each with 2 positions
- Variable Quality of Programs
- Variable Competitiveness of Applicants

- Can all programs and students match?
- Will they?
AVOIDING STICKY SITUATIONS...
Q: During my interview, or on a subsequent phone conversation, the program director asked me about other programs to which I had applied. Am I obligated to provide that information?

A: Nope!

The Match Participation Agreement prohibits programs from requiring applicants to reveal the names or identities of programs to which they have or may apply. Any program that requires an applicant to disclose such information is in violation of NRMP policy and will be investigated by the NRMP.
Our Advice?

Communicate your enthusiasm for the program without making a commitment that would make you uncomfortable!

“I’ve applied all over the country—I’ve really enjoyed seeing so many programs...and after seeing so many programs, I realize that it would a fantastic opportunity and privilege to be able to train in such a wonderful program as your program!”
NRMP Restrictions on Persuasion!

- One of the purposes of the Matching Program is to allow both applicants and programs to make selection decisions on a uniform schedule and without coercion or undue or unwarranted pressure.

- Both applicants and programs may express their interest in each other; however, they shall not solicit verbal or written statements implying a commitment.

- It is a breach of the applicable Match Participation Agreement for either party to suggest or inform the other that placement on a rank order list is contingent upon submission of a verbal or written statement indicating ranking intentions.

- In addition, it is a breach of the Match Participation Agreement for a program and applicant in the Matching Program to make any verbal or written contract for appointment to a concurrent year residency or fellowship position prior to the Matching Program.”
Q: I just got a note from one of the programs I applied to saying they are going to rank me highly—so I’ll definitely match, right?

A: **Nope!** - see below

Famous East Coast School
Boston, MA 02138

Dear Applicant:

We have thoroughly enjoyed your visit with us and it is clear that you will excel wherever you choose to go.

You represent the kind of candidate that has traditionally done well in our program and we hope to have the opportunity to work with you in the coming year.

Yours sincerely,
Program Director
Sticky Questions: A Binding Commitment

Joe Bruin decides after Feb 25th that he doesn’t want to go to a particular program. On March 17th, he opens his Match envelope and sees that he matched at the very program he decided he didn’t want to go to.

Joe Bruin yells *#@*$$@ and announces that there is no way he will be going there. He plans to do a year of research instead!

Is Joe Bruin in trouble?

Yup!!!
NRMP Rules

“The listing of an applicant by a program on its certified rank order list, or of a program by an applicant on the applicant's certified rank order list, establishes a **binding commitment** to offer or to accept an appointment if a match results.

Failure to honor this commitment by either party participating in a match will be a breach of this Agreement and may result in penalties to the breaching program or applicant…”
Examples of Applicant Violations:

- Applicant fails to honor the match commitment
- Applicant fails to provide complete, timely, and accurate information to programs
- Applicant discusses or accepts position in another program prior to receiving a waiver from the NRMP
What happens? The Investigation

• Report potential violation to Executive Director
• Information gathered by NRMP
• Preliminary Report reviewed by all parties
• Case reviewed by Violations Committee
• Review Panel Report to violator
• Violator can arbitrate
• Final Report distributed

Violation policy is at www.nrmp.org
Violation by an Applicant

Final Report sent to:

1. Applicant’s medical school
2. Directors of residency programs
3. American Board of Medical Specialties
4. Federation of State Medical Boards (for licensure!)
5. Interested parties

Applicant may be identified as a match violator in R3 System or barred from future matches for up to three years, or permanently.
Quick Review: Is it OK to…

- Tell program/student...
  - they are top of your list?
  - will list you #1 if you list me #1?
- Sign a contract before Match?
- Withdraw from the Match?
- Change mind after Feb 22\textsuperscript{nd}?
- Change mind after the results are announced?
- Defer Primary or Advanced appointment?
For Unmatched Applicants: The SOAP Process

Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program
What is SOAP?

SOAP is not a second match. It is a series of offers by programs where...

1. Applicants express interest by applying to programs.
2. Programs express preferences by submitting list(s) of applicants.
3. The R3 System offers positions to applicants in order of a program’s preference.
4. Applicants can receive multiple offers in any round.
5. Positions offered/accepted during SOAP establish a binding commitment enforced by the Match Participation Agreement.
To participate in SOAP, applicants must be:

1. Registered for the main residency match
1. Fully or partially unmatched
1. Eligible to enter a GME program on July 1 of the same year
How is this different than the “Scramble?”

1. You may apply to unfilled programs only through ERAS®, only if you are in the Match, and you will be allowed access only to the categorical, preliminary, and/or advanced unfilled positions for which you are eligible.

2. Other individuals or entities are prohibited from initiating contact on your behalf prior to contact from directors of unfilled programs.

3. If you reject an offer or if an offer expires at the conclusion of the two-hour SOAP round, that offer will be gone for ever.
Everyone:
Plans for SOAP

• Fill out SOAP planning worksheet by end of February (via Survey Monkey)

• Ensure you are within 30 minute driving distance to UCLA on Monday, March 13

• Have ready to go:
  – SOAP Worksheet (provided by SAO)
  – Laptop and Cellphone (with chargers)
  – SAO’s phone number (310-206-0434)
SOAP Timeline for UCLA

Monday, March 13

~7:30 AM  **Notified** by Lee if unmatched

8:00 AM  **Come to SAO** (the office will be closed-just knock and a staff member will let you in)

- Meet with Lee or College Chair/Assistant Dean
- Review SOAP plan
- Review in SAO the printed list of unfilled programs
- Check-in with Jason regarding ERAS materials
- Set-up laptop workstation
- Meet with College Chair/Advisor

**Review with Advisor the NRMP’s SOAP toolkit for Applicants and Schools**
11:00 AM  SOAP Begins

✓ Submit application through ERAS®

You may apply to unfilled programs only through ERAS®, and you will be allowed access only to the categorical, preliminary, and/or advanced unfilled positions for which you are eligible.

12:00 PM  Programs begin downloading applications

✓ Programs can begin contacting applicants
SOAP Timeline for UCLA

Tuesday, March 14

Programs continue to communicate with SOAP applicants

Please keep in touch with SAO to check-in and update us on your progress (310-206-0434)
SOAP Timeline for UCLA

Wednesday, March 15

8:55 AM  Programs finalize their rank list
9:00 AM  Round 1 offers extended

9:05 AM  Offer accepted!

9:15 AM  Call the SAO with update @ 310-206-0434

11:00 AM  Round 1 offers expire
SOAP Timeline for UCLA

Wednesday, March 15, continued

12:00 PM Round 2 Offers extended

✓ Accept Offer
✓ Call the SAO/College Chair with update

Thursday, March 15

6:00 AM Round 3 Offers extended (Final round of offers)

✓ Accept Offer
✓ Call the SAO/College Chair with update
SOAP Timeline for UCLA

Summary of Rounds:

Round 1: Wednesday at 9 AM
Round 2: Wednesday at 12 PM
Round 3: Thursday at 6 AM
SOAP Rules

SOAP-eligible applicants:

Unmatched or partially matched and eligible to enter GME on July 1

- Can apply only to Match-participating programs
- Access to unfilled positions restricted by match status
- Must use ERAS® to apply to programs
- Can select only unfilled Match-participating programs in ERAS®
- Cannot use phone, fax, email, or other services
- Cannot have another individual/entity contact programs
- Can accept positions only through SOAP during Match Week
- Can apply to non-Match participating programs after Match Week

http://www.nrmp.org/residency/soap/
## Final Lessons

### DO
- Make your list **LONG** enough!
- Only rank programs you want / are willing to go to
- Put programs in your real desired order
- Make #1, 2… your #1, 2 not national reputation
- Certify your list on the web each time
- Trust your heart!

### DON’T
- Make your list **TOO** short
- Rank “safe” program solely to prevent going unmatched (unless willing to go)
- Put “safe” at the top to get first choice
- Make your list based on someone else’s goals, desires, advice
- Try to GAME the system
Remember...

- There is no list that is too long
- Do not believe the program director on where they will rank you
- There is no way to Game the system
- Rank lists are confidential
- Only YOU know which program is #1
And Remember…

We are here for you-
Good luck!

Questions?
ltmiller@mednet.ucla.edu
jbergschneider@mednet.ucla.edu