



American University of the Caribbean
School of Medicine

Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program (SOAP)[®]

Office of Student and Professional Development

March 2019

What is SOAP[®]?

SOAP is the National Residency Matching Program's[®] (NRMP) Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program

[Match Week for the Main Residency Match[®]](#) takes place the third week in March. It is the period of time beginning at 11:00 a.m. ET on Monday and ending at 1:00 p.m. ET on Friday when applicants and programs learn the results of the Match.

Positions left unfilled after the matching algorithm has been processed are offered to eligible applicants through the Match Week SOAP[®]. Applicants should spend time familiarizing themselves with Match Week information and resources.

SOAP[®] Eligibility

In order to participate in SOAP[®], applicants must:

- be registered for the NRMP[®] Main Residency Match
- be eligible to enter residency training on July 1, 2019
- be partially matched or fully unmatched on Monday, March 11
- have a passing score reported for all United States Medical Licensing Examination[®] (USMLE) examinations
- **complete your registration in the Main Residency Match[®] (User Status = ACTIVE) and have your credentials verified by the Rank Order List Deadline in order to participate in SOAP.**

SOAP[®] Eligible Applicants

- On the Friday prior to Match Week (March 8), **ALL** Main Residency Match applicants receive email notification of SOAP eligibility
- On Monday of Match Week (March 11) at 11:00 AM ET, applicants learn if (but not where) they matched. Match status notification is sent by email, and applicants also can use a mobile device to access their match status in the Registration, Ranking, and Results[®] (R3[®]) system
- SOAP-eligible applicants can access the *List of Unfilled Programs* in the R3 system
- **SOAP applicants are prohibited from using any means other than ERAS to apply to programs and must refrain from any other contact until programs initiate contact with them**

SOAP[®] Ineligible Applicants

- Cannot apply to any Match-participating programs, regardless of program's SOAP participation status, until SOAP concludes
- ERAS will not send applications to SOAP-participating programs and applicants are prohibited from contacting those programs during Match Week
- Can apply to non-Match participating programs
 - Beginning at 1:00 pm ET Monday of Match Week
 - Phone, fax, email, or other methods of communication can be used
 - SOAP-ineligible applicants are prohibited from accepting a position before 12:00pm ET on Wednesday of Match Week.

How SOAP[®] Works

- List of Unfilled Programs distributed through NRMP's Registration, Ranking and Results system (R3)
- Applicants express interest in programs by applying using ERAS
- Program directors can accept application only through ERAS and can offer positions only through SOAP
- The R3 system uses a series of rounds to offer positions in order of programs' preferred applicants and according to number of unfilled positions remaining in the program during each round. Applicants can receive multiple offers in any round.
- Positions offered by programs AND accepted by applicants establish a binding commitment enforced by the Match Participation Agreement

SOAP[®] Schedule

Monday, March 11

- 11:00 am EST- Applicants learn if they Matched and List of unfilled Programs is released (R3 System)
- 12:00 pm EST - SOAP applicants can start preparing applications in the AAMC ERAS[®] system. Applicants and their representatives CANNOT communicate with a program until contacted by that program.
- 3:00 pm EST– Programs can begin reviewing SOAP applications in the AAMC ERAS system and can contact applicants upon receipt of an application.

SOAP[®] Schedule

Tuesday, March 12

- 11:30 am EST- Programs begin creating SOAP preference lists (Applicants do not submit a preference list for SOAP).

SOAP[®] Schedule

Wednesday, March 13

SOAP Round 1

- 11:55 a.m. ET Deadline to certify program preference list for Round 1 offers.
- 12:00 p.m. ET Applicants receive Round 1 offers by logging in to R3 system.
- 2:00 p.m. ET Applicant deadline to accept/reject Round 1 offers.
- 2:05 p.m. ET List of Unfilled Programs updated in R3 system.

SOAP Round 2

- 2:55 p.m. ET Deadline to modify and re-certify program preference list for Round 2 offers.
- 3:00 p.m. ET Applicants receive Round 2 offers.
- 5:00 p.m. ET Applicant deadline to accept/reject Round 2 offers.
- 5:05 p.m. ET List of Unfilled Programs updated.

SOAP[®] Schedule

Thursday, March 14

SOAP Round 3

- 8:55 a.m. ET Deadline to modify and re-certify program preference list for Round 3 offers.
- 9:00 a.m. ET Applicants receive Round 3 offers. 1
- 11:00 a.m. ET Applicant deadline to accept/reject Round 1 offers.
- 11:00 a.m. ET SOAP ends

SOAP[®] Schedule

Friday, March 15

- 1:00 p.m. Applicant Match results available (by email and R3 system).

How to Prepare for SOAP[®]

- ✓ Updated MSPE and Medical School Transcript
- ✓ Review CV and personal statement
- ✓ LOR uploaded to ERAS for preferred specialty
- ✓ Send LORs, personal statement and CV to ospd@aucmed.edu for applications sent to unfilled positions after SOAP*

* only for those who waived their right to view

How to Prepare for SOAP®

- Be ready for interviews on short notice
- Have an area and equipment prepared for online interviews
- Make sure you are professionally dressed for interviews

Things to note about SOAP[®]

- There are no additional processing fees to participate in SOAP
- You will not submit a rank order list during SOAP
- All paperwork must be submitted to programs using ERAS
- Offers made and accepted through SOAP establish a binding commitment

Things to note about SOAP[®]

- Most positions available during the SOAP are preliminary residencies (PGY-1 Only)
- Other specialties that tend to have higher numbers available are Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Pediatrics and Anesthesiology.
- Through the regular Match and SOAP the programs participating in the NRMP fill almost all the positions available.

[According to NMRP Results and Data 2018 Main Residency Match*](#)

Things to note about SOAP[®]

- Applicants may apply to all 45 programs when SOAP begins on Monday, March 11.
- SOAP eligibility status reported prior to Match Week is not an indication of match status
- Any contact with programs outside of the designated times is a violation and you could be disqualified.
- Programs may contact applicants by phone or Skype to conduct an interview.

Accepting Offers in SOAP[®]

- You may decline an offer or let an offer expire. However, we urge you to seriously consider your initial offers. If you decline an offer, there is NO GUARANTEE that you will receive another offer in a subsequent round.
- To be courteous to the program, it is best practice not to let an offer expire if you are not interested.

SOAP[®] Resources

- [SOAP for Applicants video](#)
 - [2018 Match Week and SOAP Schedule](#)
 - [SOAP: Viewing Unfilled Programs support guide](#)
 - [SOAP: View & Respond to Offers support guide](#)
 - [Program Codes and Types](#)
 - [View How a SOAP Round Works](#)
 - [SOAP Banner Messages](#)
 - [FAQs](#)
 - [Cheat Sheet](#)
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- MSPE and Medical School Transcript Request form:
<http://www.aucmed.edu/student-services/forms-and-resources/mspe/letter-update.aspx>