

OCA

Residency Resources

Office of Career Advisement

Rank Order List



The Rank Order List

The Rank Order List (ROL) is the list of all the residency programs you are willing to attend. When you are participating in NRMP's Main Match, you are accepting a binding agreement to attend any program on your list.

[NRMP: How the Matching Algorithm Works](#)



Categorical vs. Advanced Positions

Categorical

Offers full residency training required for board certification in that particular specialty.

VS.

Advanced

- Begin 1-2 years after the Match
- In specialty programs that require completion of 1 or more years of preliminary training
- If applying for these, you must also apply for the required years of preliminary training
- Specialties in this category include, but are not limited to: Urology, Ophthalmology, Dermatology, Radiology, Anesthesiology, and Neurology.



Primary vs. Supplemental

Primary Rank Order Lists

- Includes Categorical, Preliminary and Advanced positions

Supplemental Rank Order Lists

- Includes Preliminary positions and are used if ranking an advanced program for a PGY2 position that begins the year after the Match

Example: Dr. Smith wants to match into an anesthesiology residency position. Dr. Smith applies and interviews to both categorical and advanced programs. On match day she is notified that she has matched into an advanced position in her desired specialty. Now Dr. Smith has to find a preliminary position in the SOAP or the list of unfilled programs to fulfil her PGY-1 requirement.



Factors to Consider When Ranking Programs

Geographic Location

Perceived Goodness of Fit

Reputation of Program

Academic Medical Center
Program

Quality of Residents

Interview Day Experience

Staff to Resident Ratio

Long-Term Goals



ROL Strategy

**Rank based on your preference
over your perceived rank**

Complete the entire list

**Do not wait until the deadline to
complete**

Make sure all fees are paid

Be sure to CERTIFY your Rank Order List!



Couples Match

Carefully Review:

NRMP's Certifying Rank Order List for Couples – Residency Applicant Support Guide

Work together to develop your ideal pairs of ranked programs.

- **Tip:** Sit down individually and create your own ideal Rank Order List, then come together with your partner to work together to determine how your lists match up, and to develop the best **pair** of matches for you both.
- Give yourself extra time to rank and certify your list.
- You will have the option to rank a “No Match” code at the end of one partner’s Rank Order List. If one partner is able to match at that location, the other partner will go unmatched.



Deadlines

**Rank Order Certification
Deadline 2022:
March 2 at 9:00 p.m. ET**

**Do not wait until the deadline to certify your
Rank Order List*

Review for important deadlines and updates:

NRMP Match Calendar

