Today’s Agenda

- Residency Application Process and Timeline
- Researching and Applying to Programs
- Scheduling Interviews
- Supporting Documents including the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE) Letter
- Match Strategy
- Specialty Recommendations Due To Covid-19
- Target USMLE Scores
- ECFMG Certification
- Residency Interview
- Resources
**Residency Application Process Overview**

- **June 23**: Obtain ERAS Token
- **September 1**: Apply to Programs
- **September 15**: Register with NRMP
- **October 21**: Applications & MSPE Letters Released to Programs
- **March 3**: Rank Order List Deadline
- **March 15 - 19**: Match Week
- **July 1**: Residency Begins

**ECFMG Residency Timeline**
## 2021 Match | Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>April 1</strong></td>
<td>Submit Noteworthy Characteristics for Review and request a <a href="#">Physician Match Advisor</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>June 23</strong></td>
<td>ERAS Token Available for 2021 Match</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 1</strong></td>
<td>Request MSPE Letter (Must submit Noteworthy Characteristics)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>September 1</strong></td>
<td>Applicants may begin submitting applications to residency programs</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>September 14-18</strong></td>
<td>MSPE Letters are sent to students to review for factual errors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>September 15</strong></td>
<td>Registration for NRMP opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>September 19</strong></td>
<td>Target date to take Step 2 CK in order to have results prior to applications being released on October 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>October 12</strong></td>
<td>All MSPE Letters and Medical School Transcripts are uploaded to ECFMG/ERAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>October 21</strong></td>
<td>Submitted applications and MSPE letters are released to programs for review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>February 3</strong></td>
<td>Deadline to take Step 2 CK in order to receive score prior to ROL deadline to be eligible for the Main Match</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>March 3</strong></td>
<td>NRMP Deadline for Late Registration, Rank Order List certification, or to withdraw from the Match</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>March 15-19</strong></td>
<td>Match Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 1</strong></td>
<td>Residency begins for most programs</td>
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</table>
Researching Programs | June - August

Consider your personality and short and long term goals.

List programs in which you’re interested and narrow down by researching program websites.

Look for programs that have taken IMGs and match USMLE requirements, if applicable.

Refer to Residency Placement Lists from: AUC | Ross | SGU | SABA | UMHS | AUA

Refer to FRIEDA Residency Database, ACGME website and ERAS 2021 Participating Specialties and Programs.
Applying to Programs | September 1 – October 21

- Review online presence to ensure it promotes an image of professional and mature physicians
- In a typical application year, most students will apply to 100-200 programs
- Use Residency Fee Calculator to estimate costs of applying (150 programs cost approx. $3600)
- Goal is to get at least 10 interviews
- Budget $3k-$5K for applications costs
Interviewing with Programs | October - January

Try to avoid interviewing at your top choice program until you have completed at least one interview

* Nervous and less confident early on, so use programs in which you are not as interested in to improve skills

No consensus if better to interview early or late in season

* Early because programs are fresh and excited about meeting applicants.
* Late so you’ll be more memorable.

**Remember:** Program Coordinator organizes the interview schedule and is closest to the Program Director – be nice!
Residency Application Supporting Documents

- **Letters of Recommendation (LoRs)** – provided by student/letter writer
- **USMLE Transcript** – provided by student
- **Personal Statement** – provided by student
- **Curriculum Vitae (CV)** – provided by student
- **Photograph** – provided by student
- **ECFMG Status Report**
- **Medical School Transcript** – provided by Registrar
- **MSPE Letter** – provided by OSPD (See Sample) (Submit request by July 1, 2020)

ECFMG Supporting Documents Overview
Letter of Recommendation (LOR)

- Need at least one LOR in the specialty or specialties in which you apply.
- No limit to number of LORs students can submit to ERAS, but can only assign four to each program.
- Letter writers are the only individuals who can upload an LOR via AAMC’s portal if the student has waived his or her right to view the LOR.

Letter of Recommendation Portal (LoRP)
MSPE Letter | Rotation Comments

Clerkship: Psychiatry Core  
Weeks: 6 -- From: 6/26/2017 to 8/4/2017  
St. John's Episcopal Hospital- South Shore, Far Rockaway, NY  
Overall Evaluation: Superior  
"Outstanding student, enthusiastic learner. A pleasure to teach. Valuable team member."

Clerkship: Pediatrics Core  
Providence Hospital, Southfield, MI  
Overall Evaluation: Superior  
"Superb student, she will do very well in her chosen area of medicine (I’m hoping for Pediatrics!). She was always punctual, and was willing to help the office flow smoothly, often without prompting. She has an excellent interaction with patients, parent, and staff. She was well studied in Pediatrics, and very eager to investigate and learn the curriculum."

MSPE Letter Sample
MSPE Letter | COVID-19 Additions

Academic History

Jane Doe’s academic experience was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic; please see the Academic Progress section for more detail.

**Clerkship: Internal Medicine (Core)**
- Clerkship Grade: Exceeds Expectations
- Overall Grade: Honors

*This rotation was modified due to our school suspending medical students’ clinical contact due to COVID-19. The Overall Grade for Core Clerkships is based on the student’s clinical performance during the rotation unless he or she had multiple attempts on NBME subject exam and/or scored "Below Expectations" for professionalism. In those cases, "Pass" is the highest grade students can attain.*

She will be an asset to any IM residency program. She has an amazing work ethic, clinical skills, and strong medical knowledge. She went above and beyond and made herself available to every learning experience.
Ms. Doe has thrived at American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine. After adapting to student life in a foreign country, she pursued and excelled in clinical clerkship rotations at geographically diverse sites across the United States. Throughout her time at AUC, Ms. Doe has benefitted from dedicated faculty and a student-centered approach to medical education and training.

Ms. Doe received honors in multiple core clerkships and participated in multiple community service activities while serving in a leadership role.

I am pleased to recommend Jane Doe for post-graduate training.
Match Strategy

• Competitive for specialty (Charting Outcomes in the Match for IMGs)
• Parallel Specialty if not competitive for preferred specialty
• Apply to sites where you rotated
• Strong LORs (at least in preferred specialty)
• Apply to sites in your home state
  • Mention you are from the area in personal statement
• Apply broadly
  • Different geographic regions, different types of programs (community/university)
• Consider going for the 2022 Match and opting into the 80-week program if you won’t have an LOR in your preferred specialty or CK completed by Oct. 21
## USMLE® Step 1 Performance for 2017, 2018 and 2019 Classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialty</th>
<th># Residency Placements</th>
<th>% Matched into Specialty</th>
<th>AUC Mean</th>
<th>IMGs Mean*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anesthesiology</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>231</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dermatology</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>N/A**</td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Medicine</td>
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<td>3.3%</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>232</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Medicine</td>
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<td>Internal Medicine</td>
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<td>37.0%</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>224</td>
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<tr>
<td>Internal Medicine/Pediatrics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>227</td>
<td>224</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neurological Surgery</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neurology</td>
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<td>229</td>
<td>227</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ob/Gyn</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>229</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orthopedic Surgery</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
<td>239</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pathology</td>
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<td>0.9%</td>
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<td>N/A**</td>
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<tr>
<td>PM&amp;R</td>
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<td>225</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychiatry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Radiology-Diagnostic</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>248</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surgery-General</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>242</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surgery-Vascular</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A**</td>
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*Source: [2018 NRMP’s Charting Outcomes in the Match for International Medical Graduates](https://www.nrmp.org/sites/default/files/2019-08/2018%20NRMP%20Charting%20Outcomes%20in%20the%20Match%20for%20International%20Medical%20Graduates.pdf) ** Data too few to report
# USMLE®Step 2 CK Performance for 2017, 2018 and 2019 Classes

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<tr>
<th>Specialty</th>
<th># Residency Placements</th>
<th>% Matched into Specialty</th>
<th>AUC Mean Step 2 CK</th>
<th>IMGs Mean*</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>3.1%</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>237</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dermatology</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>N/A**</td>
<td>246</td>
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<tr>
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<td>244</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orthopedic Surgery</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>245</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pathology-Anatomical and Clinical</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>232</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>40</td>
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Specialty Recommendations Due To COVID-19

General Consensus

- Limit and do not require away rotations -- exceptions can be made for students who do not have the opportunity to rotate in a specific specialty at their home institution, or are local to the area
- Highly recommend all interviews be held virtually
- Consider students who may have had their exams delayed due to the pandemic and may have not have had the opportunity to secure a certain number of letters of recommendation prior to applications being released

AAMC’s Page For All Specialties’ Response to COVID-19
Residency Interview Questions | Examples

Start Practicing Now!

✓ Tell me about yourself
✓ Why are you interested in this program?
✓ What challenges will our specialty face in the next 10 years?
✓ Why did you choose your specialty?
✓ What are your long-term goals?
✓ Why do you want to be a physician?
✓ How do you handle stress?

Common interview questions can be found in AUC’s Match Handbook
AAMC’s Virtual Interviews: Tips for Medical School Applicants
ECFMG Certification: Step 2 CS Update

Eligibility for All Pathways to Meet CS Requirement

- Have not already passed Step 2 CS
- Are not barred by ECFMG from pursuing certification
- Are not barred by USMLE from taking a Step or Step Component from August 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021
- Have not failed a USMLE Step or Step Component (Step 1, Step 2 CK, or Step 2 CS) two or more times
- Have taken or been registered for any USMLE Step or Step Component since January 1, 2018

ECFMG Certification Requirements for 2021 Match
ECFMG Certification: Step 2 CS Update

Pathway for AUC Students

• Applicant’s medical school is currently accredited by an agency recognized by WFME
• Date of graduation must be on or after January 1, 2018
• An authorized school official must attest to applicant’s clinical skills
  – Students who have not yet passed the USMLE Step 2 CS, the Kaplan CS Practice Exam (CSPE), or the Becker Clinical Skills Assessment (CSA) are required to take and pass the Kaplan CSPE in order to graduate
  – This new standardized CSPE requirement will allow AUC to attest to each student’s level of clinical skill and ensure your readiness for residency
ECFMG Certification: Step 2 CS Update

English Language Proficiency Assessment

• Applicants who pursue one of the following pathways will be required to attain a satisfactory score on an English proficiency assessment
• All applicants, regardless of citizenship, will be required to satisfy this requirement
• Details regarding this requirement also will be announced very soon
Additional Resources

**ECFMG**
*Introduction to Application Process*

**ECHO**
*Residency Application Support from ECFMG*

**NRMP**
*How the Match works, Rank Order List and Residency Data*

**OSPD Web Page**
*AUC and non-AUC resources, MSPE Letter, Personal Statement and CV Samples*

Schedule an Appointment | ospd@aucmed.edu