



THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO
UChicago Medicine

**Pritzker School
of Medicine**

MS4 Class Meeting No. 4: Creating Your Rank List

Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2026 – 5:00 p.m.

Zoom

Pritzker Chief and Graduation Updates

- Please complete the **Match Week Preference Survey** when it arrives to help ensure a fun week of activities. Anyone interested in helping plan Match Week should reach out to the Chiefs
- **Senior Skit** – Chiefs currently recruiting anyone who wants to be involved in Senior Skit as an actor, which will likely be during Match Week.
- Please also complete the **AAMC Graduation Questionnaire**, as a **90% completion rate unlocks additional Match Week funding**. Will be sent in February and close March 8.
- Graduation website: <https://voices.uchicago.edu/pritzkergraduation2026>
 - o Check to-do list regularly!
 - o FAQ page will also answer many common questions
- Submission form for **Class of 2026 Gratitude Remarks open now** as well as **Stole of Gratitude** order form (see slides). Both submissions due **Sunday, Feb. 1 at 11:59 p.m.**

Preparing Your Rank List – Dr. Woodruff and Tyler Lockman

Residency Advising Tool

- Please update your [Residency Interview Survey](#)!
- This information helps future Pritzker students as they prepare for residency application
- Survey will close in early February
- **Reach out to Tyler Lockman if you have any questions or technical issues**

Principles to Consider

- Do the right thing (for YOU!)
 - o Be honest: Don't pretend what you don't feel
- Do not get distracted
 - o Be thoughtful about the advice you take – there can be a lot of it, and some may be more or less sound than others
- There is more than one program for you

- Make a commitment to thrive wherever you end up!
- You are applying for a job

NRMP/Match Violations

- Submitting your certified rank order list = **binding commitment** to accept an appointment if a match results and to start training in good faith
- Leaving a training program before at least 45 days is a breach of the Match Agreement
- Programs agree to select senior students of U.S. allopathic medical schools for all of their programs only through the Main Residency Match
- Applicants and programs **can express interest** in each other but **cannot make deals**
- Neither you nor programs can require disclosure of ranking plans or intentions;
- *If you feel a program may be violating the Match Agreement, reach out to Dr. Woodruff*

Match Communications

- Program directors frequently send letters containing statements that can be misinterpreted by students. PDs may even call to express their level of interest
 - THESE ARE NOT BINDING STATEMENTS. Do not make decisions about your future before the Match occurs.
- Letters of Intent or Interest: These are OK and may be meaningful to some programs but less so to others
 - Do not send Letter of Intent to more than one program; only your #1
 - Wait until after ALL your interviews are complete
 - Letters of Interest to your top few programs are greatly discouraged (this is you telling them they are not #1!)

Overview of Rank Process

- Important Dates
 - Feb. 2, 2026: Rank List submission opens
 - **Feb. 18, 2026: Pritzker deadline to certify and submit your rank list**
 - March 4, 2026 at 8 p.m.: **NRMP Deadline** to certify and submit rank order list
 - March 16, 2026 at 9 a.m.: Did I Match? Notification by email
 - March 20, 2026: Match Day
- Rank Order List Entry
 - Refer to meeting slides for step-by-step walkthrough
 - Can be entered in more than one session
 - Keep a hard copy list for your records/reference
 - Recommendation: Submit your rank list by Feb. 18 and don't go back to tinker with it!
 - Note: There is no standard time frame in which programs must send instructions to students about how to rank them. If you have not heard anything by Feb. 1 or shortly

after, reach out to the program.

- Supplemental List Entry
 - o Refer to meeting slides
 - o Have a conversation with your Career Advisor about also potentially ranking your prelim/TY programs separately at the bottom of your Rank Order List as a protective measure
- Certifying your Rank Order List
 - o Refer to meeting slides
- Rank Order List Confirmation
 - o PRINT A COPY of your final rank order list after submission
 - o NRMP will send a confirmation to your email after you certify your rank order list
 - o If you edit a certified ROL, you **must re-certify the updated list**
 - o Pritzker staff will be able to confirm if your match status is CERTIFIED ROL on the NRMP website (Tyler will be monitoring this closely!)
- How the Match Algorithm Works
 - o Refer to recording or meeting slides
- Dean's Ranking Advice
 - o Meet with you career advisor to discuss strategy
 - o Aim high and rank **all** programs at which you interviewed: the algorithm favors you
 - The algorithm starts with *your* ranking, so rank your **true preferences**
 - Ranking a "Reach" program high does not reduce your chances of matching at programs further down your rank list; those programs will not know if you ranked other programs higher than them
 - o Take advantage of the 20 FREE ranks!
 - o **The #1 reason students don't match is because they didn't rank enough programs**
 - o Even if a program says "We will rank you #1" this is NOT A GUARANTEE
 - o Do not wait until March 4th to certify! Aim for Feb. 18 or at least one week before the NRMP deadline
 - o Trust us: You do NOT want to go through the SOAP
 - o When should you not rank a program?
 - **Only when you would rather be unmatched than be at that program**
- Getting your Match Results
 - o Monday, March 16 at 9:00 a.m.: Applicants can log into NRMP R3 system to learn their Match status (not their Match)
- SOAP: Supplementary Offer and Acceptance Program
 - o Not a second match; It is a series of offers by program
 - o Pritzker will assist any SOAP applicants; you will not go through SOAP alone
 - o Positions offered/accepted during SOAP establish a binding commitment, enforced by the Match Participation Agreement