

# MS4 Class Meeting: Preparing Your Rank List

January 20, 2026



Pritzker School  
of Medicine



# MS4 Class Meeting Agenda

- Welcome
  - Jim Woodruff, MD, Associate Dean of Students
- Graduation Updates
  - Alyssa Stein
- Class & Graduation Updates
  - Alia Abiad, Ceylon Auguste-Nelson, Audrey Litvak – Pritzker Chiefs
- Preparing Your Rank List
  - Jim Woodruff, MD, and Tyler Lockman

# Pritzker Graduation Traditions

## *Gratitude Remarks & Stole of Gratitude*

Setting the Scene:  
Drake Dinner

Thursday May 21, 2026  
120 days away



The screenshot shows a portion of the University of Chicago website. At the top, there is a red horizontal bar with the text 'VERSITY OF CHICAGO' partially visible. Below this is the university's logo and name: 'THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO' with 'UChicago Medicine' underneath. A navigation bar follows, with links for 'About Graduation', 'Match Day & Graduation Events', 'To-Do Lists', 'FAQs', 'Contact Us', and a search icon. The main content area features a large image of a city skyline at night, with the words 'Student, Family, and Faculty Recognition Dinner | Thursday May 21, 2026' overlaid. Below this text, it says 'The "Drake Dinner"'. The entire screenshot is framed by a thick red border.



# Pritzker Graduation Traditions

## *Gratitude Remarks & Stole of Gratitude*

### 1. Submission form Open: Gratitude Remarks

We invite ALL of you to draft and submit for the Class of 2026 gratitude remarks.

- Submissions should be general (not person specific).
- All submissions anonymous reviewed, with one selected for the class.
- The selected remarks will be a formal part of the Drake Dinner, read aloud by author.

**Submission form open Today (Jan. 20) – Sunday February 1<sup>st</sup>, 11:59pm**



### 1. Stole of Gratitude (Optional Order Form open)

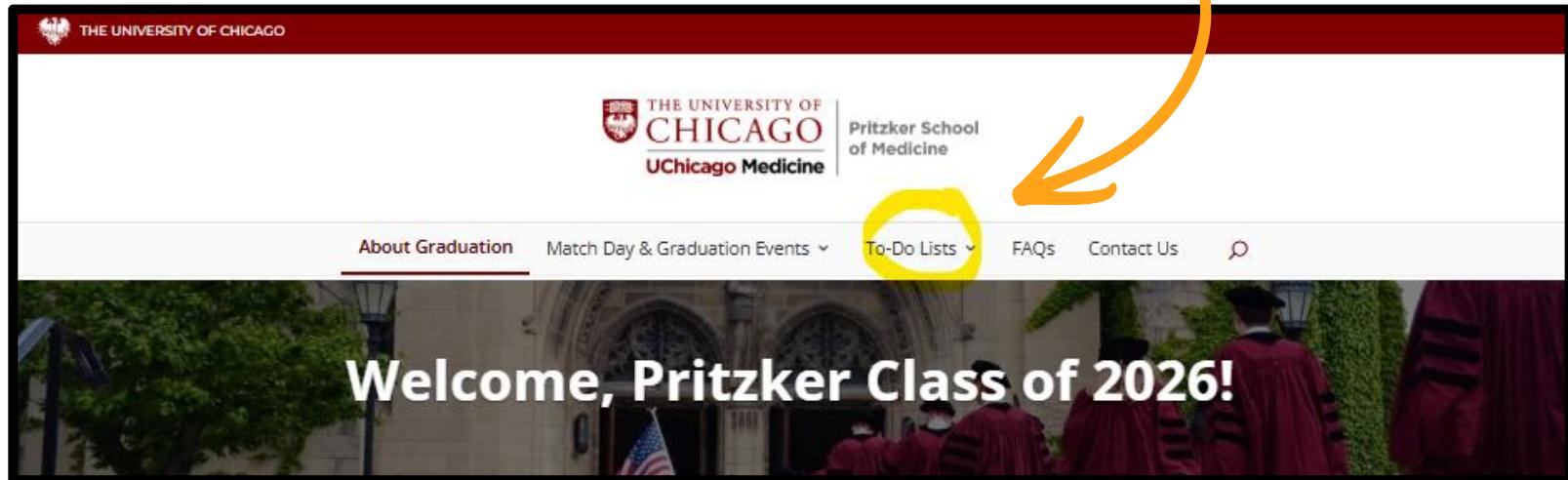
Each graduate will receive one stole, purchased by Pritzker, to gift to a Drake Dinner guest of their choice, honoring their support.

- Stole Gifting - Formal part of Drake Dinner:
  - Gratitude Remarks Read (by author), THEN Dr. Arora invites all graduates to take out the stole (received at Drake Dinner check-in), and gift it to one of your guests.
- Option to order additional, if you want to give more than one stole. MOST students just have the one.

**Order form for additional stole(s) open Today (Jan. 20) – Sunday February 1<sup>st</sup>, 11:59pm**

Visit our website:  
[voices.uchicago.edu/pritzkergraduation2026](https://voices.uchicago.edu/pritzkergraduation2026)

Click on **To-Do Lists** to stay up to date!



# Chief Updates

# Match Week/Senior Skit

## Match Week (3/16-3/20)

- Open to ideas so please reach out to Chiefs with ideas/questions/concerns
- Please fill out the survey (sent out/to be sent soon) with superlatives, photos, and baby photos!

## Senior Skit (TBD, likely Match Week)

- Recruiting actors – please feel free to reach out to one of us if interested!

# Quick Reminders

## PMAP M1/M4 Lunch This Friday 1/23 at 12pm!

- 11:30am-1pm in CPP&T labs
- Hope to see you there! Come chat with M1s, talk about your path/specialty/activities, and serve as a friendly face/mentor!

## AAMC Survey

- Will be sent out in February and close 3/8! Please fill it out!
- AAMC rep: Caroline Montag

Thanks!

Reach out if there are any  
questions or concerns

# Road to Residency: Final Leg

- Residency Advising Tool
- Principles to Consider
- NRMP & Match Violations
- Overview of rank process
- Making the Match work for you
- Getting your match results
- SOAP
- Match Week!

# Residency Advising Tool

# Residency Interview/Match Database

- Please update your residency interview survey
  - Helpful information for your class and future Pritzker students
- It's been a while? Log back in to check if it is correct.
- Tyler will send a final request for updates
- Survey will close in February

# Rank Order List

## Principles to Consider

# Principles to Consider

- Do the right thing
  - Be honest: don't pretend what you don't feel
  - If something is making you uncomfortable, pay attention to that feeling
- Do not get distracted
  - There is no one silver bullet or “right move”
  - Evaluate the advice you receive critically and judiciously

# Principles to Consider

- There is more than one program for you
  - Don't "fall in love": monogamy comes later
  - Bundle the programs in groups of 3-5 as your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, etc. choices
- You are applying for a job
  - There is more than one way to judge the outcome
  - Make a commitment to thrive wherever you go

# NRMP & Match Violations

# The Match Commitment



## Section 7.2

To participate in the Match, applicants must enter and certify their final rank order list in the R3 system before the Rank Order List Certification Deadline. Certification of the rank order list will confirm the applicant's full participation in the Match and agreement to:

1. Adhere to the **binding commitment** to accept an appointment if a match results, and
2. Start training in good faith (i.e., with the intent to complete training) on the date specified in the appointment agreement.

## Section 1.0

**The Match:** Establishes a binding commitment between the applicant and the program(s).

**Neither the applicant nor the program may release the other from the binding commitment without a waiver or deferral granted by the NRMP.**

# The Match Commitment (cont.)

## Section 10.2:

Applicants who give notice of resignation, resign, or vacate a position within 45 days of the start date specified in the appointment agreement, without having an approved waiver or deferral from the NRMP, will be in violation of this Agreement. Programs must report such violations to [policy@nrmp.org](mailto:policy@nrmp.org).

## Section 11.0:

A waiver or deferral may be considered by the NRMP: 1. For circumstances demonstrating an unanticipated serious and extreme hardship or change of specialty; or 2. If NRMP determines the applicant is ineligible to begin training.

# NRMP Rules

- Sponsoring institutions that register any programs in the *Main Residency Match* agree to select senior students of U.S. allopathic medical schools for all of their programs only through the *Main Residency Match* or another national matching plan. In addition, **programs participating in the *Main Residency Match*** agree to select senior students of U.S. allopathic medical schools only through the *Main Residency Match*.
- Applicants and programs can express their interest in each other, but parties **may NOT require that the other reveal**, verbally or in writing, ranking preferences or intentions.
- Applicants and programs are bound by the results of the Match.

# NRMP Rules

#1: You must show up!

#2: You can profess your affection

#3: Neither you nor programs can require that the other disclose ranking intentions

# Match Communications

Program directors frequently send letters containing statements that can be misinterpreted by students. Program Directors may also call you several times on the phone to indicate their level of interest.

**These letters and phone calls are not binding and have no standing when final rank orders lists are submitted.**

# FAMOUS EASTERN MEDICAL SCHOOL GENERAL HOSPITAL

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

# Overview of Rank Process

# Deadlines and Dates

February 2, 11:00 a.m. CST

Rank order list entry opens

March 4, 2026, **8:00 p.m. CST**

Ranking closes and lists **must be certified**

March 16, 9:00 a.m. CST

Did I Match? List of Unfilled Programs (SOAP)

March 20, 10:00 a.m. CST

Match Day Program begins

March 20, 11:00 a.m. CST

Match Day envelopes can be opened (if in person) +  
results emailed to applicants

February 18, 2026

Internal deadline to certify  
your rank list

# NRMP Fees

## Individual: 20 programs (\$70)

- 1-20 programs may be ranked on your primary rank order list at no additional charge; each additional ranked program costs \$30 per program.
- 1-20 programs may be ranked on your supplemental rank order list(s) at no additional charge; each additional ranked program on all supplemental lists combined costs \$30 per program.

## Couples: 20 programs (\$70)

- Couples pay an *additional* \$45 per partner, and rank 1-20 unique **programs** at no additional charge. **Each partner must have the same number of ranks. Remember, couples can list the same program more than once** on their list depending upon the corresponding program on their partner's list.

*Extra fees are due at the time of certification. Those fees are NOT refundable if you certify a shorter list at a later time.*

# Rank Order List Entry

- The rank order list can be entered in one or more sessions.
- It can be modified or re-ordered any number of times up until the deadline (but we do not recommend getting close to the deadline due to server slowness or tech issues):

**8:00 p.m. CST on March 4, 2026**

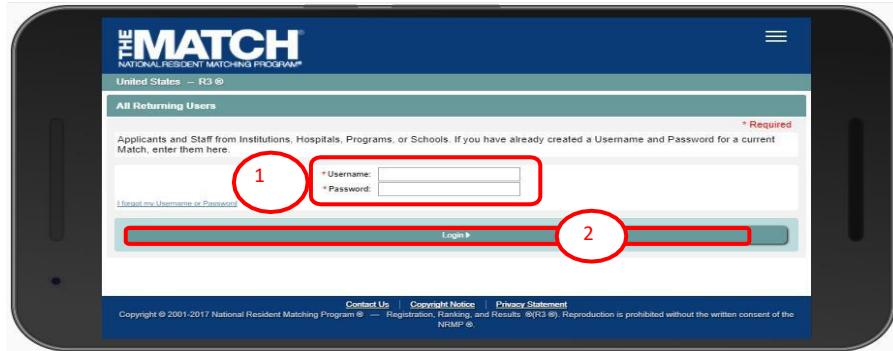
- Applicants in the middle of a session at 8:00 pm will not be able to complete their session and will be forced off the server.

*Do not wait until the last minute!*

# Ranking Logistics

## Login:

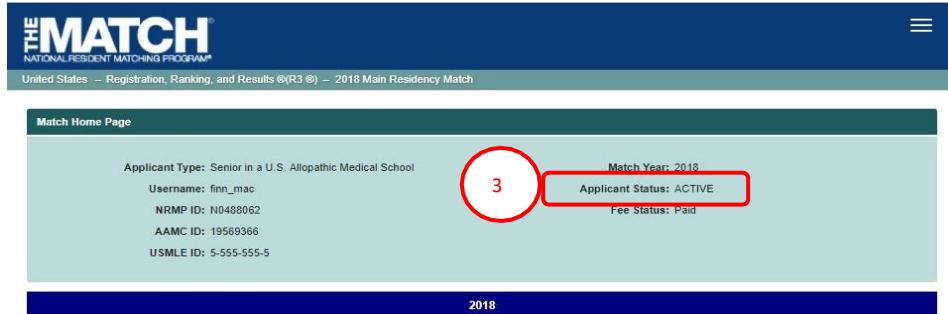
1. Enter the **Username** and **Password** you created for accessing the Registration, Ranking, and Results (R3®) system.
2. Click **Login**.



## Match Home Page:

The Match Home Page displays.

3. NOTE: Your **Applicant Status** is **ACTIVE**. Once your rank order list contains at least one program, the system changes the status to **RANKING**, displayed in red because the list must be certified before it can be used in the Match. After the list has been certified, **CERTIFIED** displays in green and no further action is required to participate in the Match.



# Creating Your ROL Using Find & Add Option

1. Click the **Menu** in the top right corner.
2. Click **ROL**.

THE MATCH  
NATIONAL RESIDENT MATCHING PROGRAM

Home Options ROL Finn McEwen

2018

Jan 15 Rank order list entry begins at 12:00 noon ET for all users

Feb 15 Rank Order List Deadline and deadline to withdraw from the Main Residency Match!  
Rank order lists must be certified no later than 9:00 p.m. ET.

Mar 29 Match Day! Match results released in R3® system at 3:45 p.m. ET.

[Click here for the complete Main Residency Match Calendar](#)

The **Applicant Rank Order List** page displays.

3. Scroll down to the ROL table.
4. Click **Find & Add Program**.

THE MATCH  
NATIONAL RESIDENT MATCHING PROGRAM

Primary Rank Order List

You may add Programs to the list by entering their NRMP Program Code below, or by Searching for them on the "Find & Add Programs" modal by selecting from "Add Programs" menu.

- Click, drag and drop the icons in the "Drag & Drop" column to move a Program's rank.
- The maximum rank order list length is 300 ranks.
- Select "Remove" on any Program record below to delete it from the list.

Find & Add Program

Cancel Save Search my List Print Delete All

Drag & Drop Prim ROL Rank Institution & Program Description Suppl ROL Status NRMP Program Code ACGME Program Code Remove

Cancel Save Search my List Print Delete All

1 NRMP Program Code Add Program & Save

# Creating Your ROL Using Find & Add Option

The **Find & Add Programs** pop-up displays.

5. Enter search criteria into the appropriate fields. NOTE:  
Not all fields are required to conduct a search. The more information entered, the more refined the search results will be.

6. Click **Cancel** to return to the rank order list table.

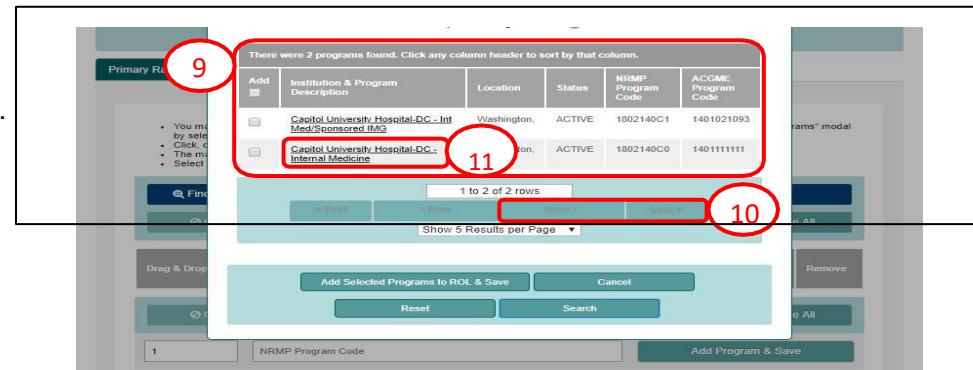
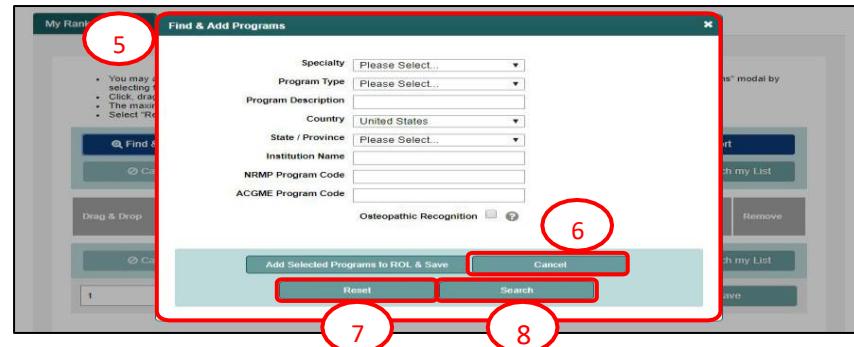
7. Click **Reset** to clear the search fields.

8. Once search criteria are entered, click **Search**.

9. Search results display, including the number of results found.

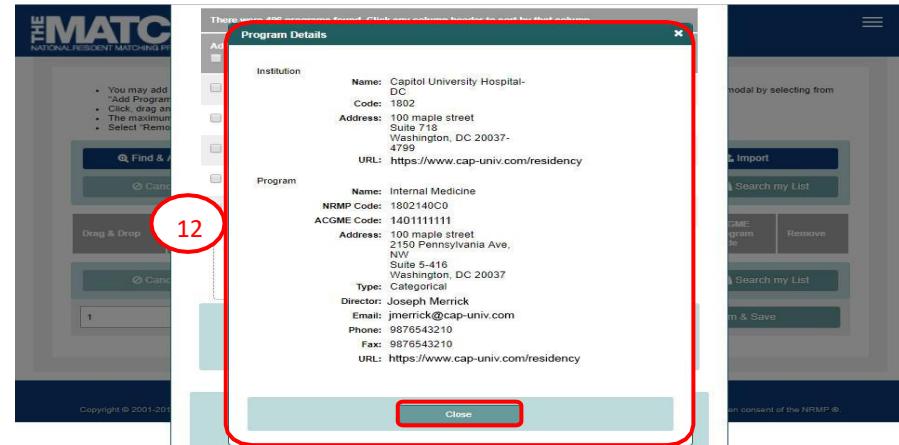
10. Click the navigation buttons to view more results, if necessary.

11. Click the **Institution & Program Description** link to review additional information.

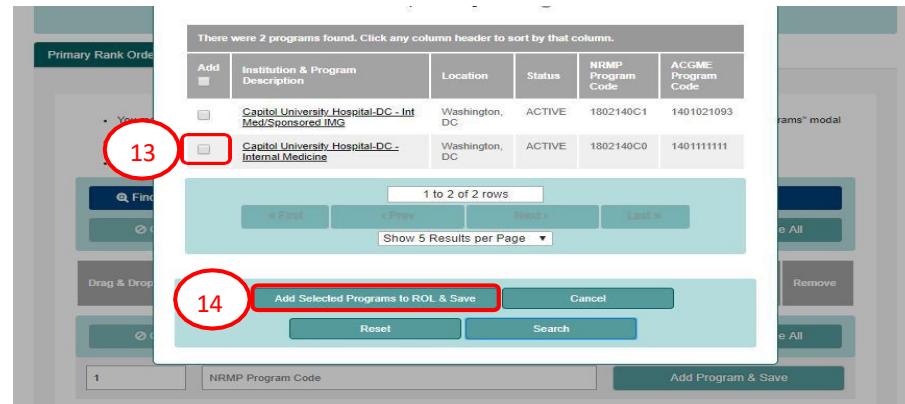


# Creating Your ROL Using Find & Add Option

12. The **Program Details** pop-up displays. Review the information and click **Close** when you are finished.



13. Click the checkbox next to the name(s) of the programs(s) you want to add to the rank order list.



14. Click the **Add Selected Programs to ROL & Save** button.

# Creating Your ROL Using Find & Add Option

15. A green note displays at the top of the screen indicating your rank order list has been saved.
16. Repeat the above steps to add more programs to your list.
17. Scroll down to review your rank order list.
  - a. The **Prim ROL Rank** column identifies the current order of the programs listed.
18. To change the rank order of the programs, click and hold the icon in the **Drag & Drop** column and drag the program to the position you desire or change the rank number in the **Prim ROL Rank** column.
19. A green note displays indicating a change has been made to the list.
  - a. The yellow note provides a reminder to save the changes.
20. Click **Save** to maintain the rank order change.
21. Click **Cancel** to return your list to the last saved version.
22. To remove a program, click the **red X**. You must save any changes.
23. Click **Delete All** to clear the list.

The screenshots illustrate the process of creating a rank order list (ROL) using the 'Find & Add Program' feature in the Match program. The top screenshot shows a successful save message ('ROL saved successfully') and the list with a rank order of 1-7. The bottom screenshot shows an unsaved change message ('The Rank Order List has been updated and sorted. To save your changes, click the "Save" button at the bottom of this page.') and the list with a rank order of 1-4. Numbered callouts (16-23) point to various buttons and icons.

Drag & Drop	Prim ROL Rank	Institution & Program Description	Suppl ROL	Status	NRMP Program Code	ACGME Program Code	Remove
1	Capitol University Hospital-DC - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	1802140C0	1401111111		X
2	National Medical Center-Test-DC - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	1000140C0	1401111112		X
3	Secondary Test Institution-DC - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	1894140C0	1401111113		X
4	Charlottesville University-VA - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	1737140C0	1402222222		X
5	Henrico Univ Hlth Sys-VA - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	1743140C0	1405555555		X
6	Memphis Med Ctr-TN - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	1702140C0	1402222223		X
7	Memphis Med Ctr-TN - Int Med/research Pathway		ACTIVE	1702140C1	1402222223		X
	West Tennessee Univ - TN - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	2066140C0	1404445555		X

# Ranking Logistics

- Three Methods to Create a Rank Order List
  - Find and Add Option (*just reviewed*)
  - Searching NRMP Program Codes
  - Importing Programs from a File
- <http://www.nrmp.org/help> has guides to help you navigate entering and certifying your rank order list

# Supplemental List Entry

Primary Rank Order List | Find & Add Programs

- You may add Programs to the list by entering their NRMP Program Code below, or by Searching for them on the "Find & Add Programs" tab.
- Click, drag and drop the icons in the "Drag & Drop" column to move a Program's rank.
- Select "Remove" on any Program record below to delete it from the list.

Certify List

Drag & Drop	Prim ROL Rank	Institution & Program Description	Suppl ROL	Status	NRMP Program Code	ACGME Program Code	Remove
	1	American Medical Center - Anesthesiology	(None) <input type="button" value="▼"/>	ACTIVE	1691040A0	0401111111	

Enter NRMP Program Code to add a Program:  Rank: 2 [Add & Save](#)

Cancel Changes |  Delete All Ranks | [Save](#) | [Print List](#)

# Supplemental List Entry

Primary Rank Order List    Supplemental ROLs    Find & Add Programs

Select Rank Order List to add programs to

**State / Province**

**Specialty**

**Program Type**

**Program Description**

**Institution Name**

**NRMP Program Code**

**ACGME Program Code**

**+ Add Selected Programs to ROL & Save**

**Reset**  **Search**

# Supplemental List Entry

Primary Rank Order List    Supplemental ROLs    Find & Add Programs

Rank Order List shown below. A Supplemental ROL

- You may add Preliminary Programs to this list by entering their NRMP Program Code below, or by ensuring this Supplemental ROL is selected on the "Find & Add Programs" tab and searching for programs.
- Click, drag and drop the icons in the "Drag & Drop" column to move a Preliminary Program's rank.
- Select "Remove" on any Preliminary Program record below to delete it from this list.
- Please return to the "Primary Rank Order List" tab and click <Certify List> in order to Certify your ROL.

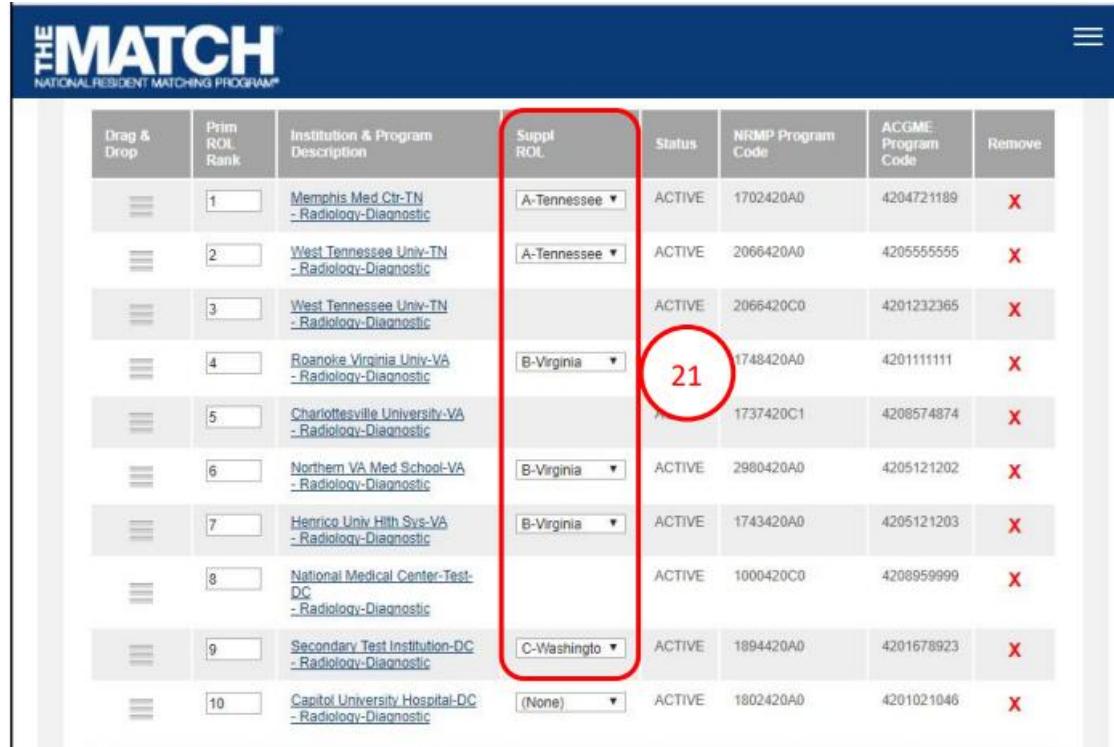
If desired, you may edit the suffix name of the Supplemental ROL name here. **A- Supplemental ROL** **Update**

**Drag & Drop** **Rank** **Institution & Program Description** **Status** **NRMP Program Code** **ACGME Program Code** **Remove**

	1	American Medical Center - Transitional Year	ACTIVE	1691999P0	9995555555	
	2	National Test Institute - Transitional Year	ACTIVE	1690999P0	9993333333	

Enter NRMP Program Code to add a Program:  Rank: 3 **Add & Save**

# Supplemental List Entry

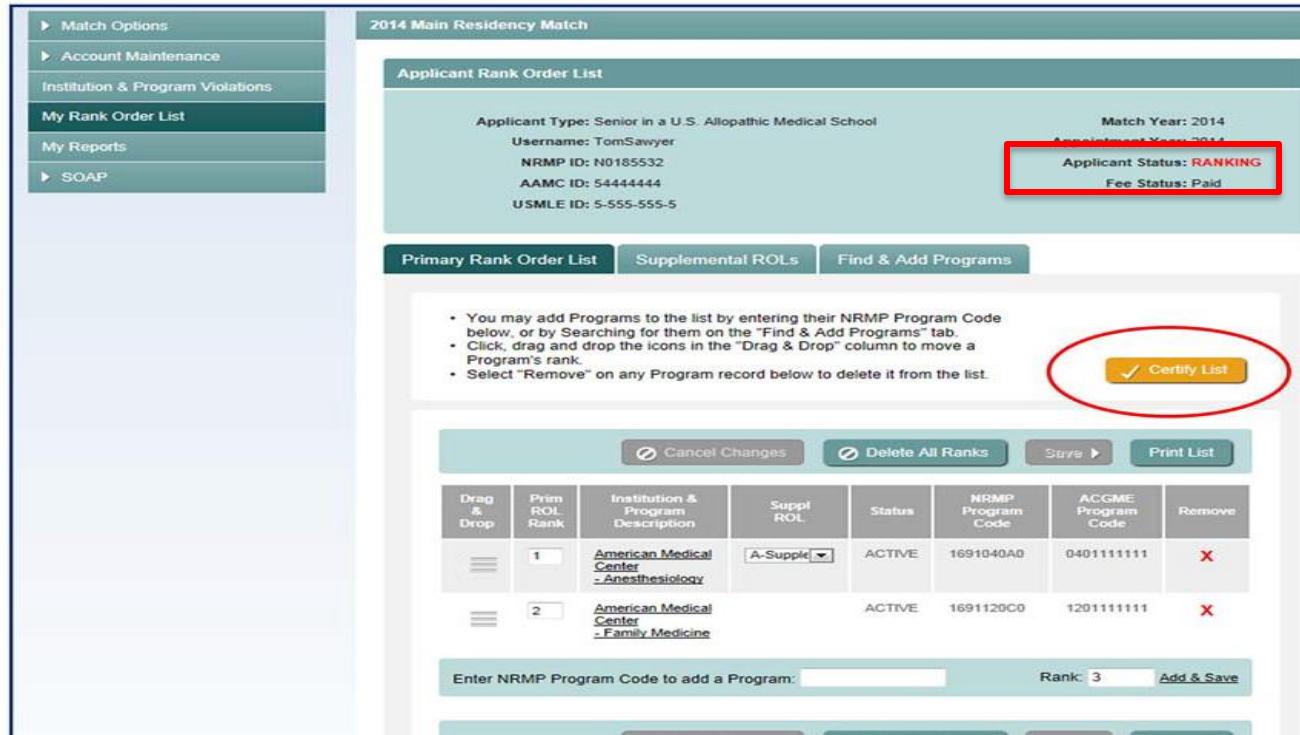


Drag & Drop	Prim ROL Rank	Institution & Program Description	Suppl ROL	Status	NRMP Program Code	ACGME Program Code	Remove
	1	Memphis Med Ctr-TN - Radiology-Diagnostic	A-Tennessee	ACTIVE	1702420A0	4204721189	X
	2	West Tennessee Univ-TN - Radiology-Diagnostic	A-Tennessee	ACTIVE	2066420A0	4205555555	X
	3	West Tennessee Univ-TN - Radiology-Diagnostic		ACTIVE	2066420C0	4201232365	X
	4	Roanoke Virginia Univ-VA - Radiology-Diagnostic	B-Virginia	ACTIVE	1748420A0	4201111111	X
	5	Charlottesville University-VA - Radiology-Diagnostic		ACTIVE	1737420C1	4208574874	X
	6	Northern VA Med School-VA - Radiology-Diagnostic	B-Virginia	ACTIVE	2960420A0	4205121202	X
	7	Henrico Univ Hlth Sys-VA - Radiology-Diagnostic	B-Virginia	ACTIVE	1743420A0	4205121203	X
	8	National Medical Center-Test-DC - Radiology-Diagnostic		ACTIVE	1000420C0	4208959999	X
	9	Secondary Test Institution-DC - Radiology-Diagnostic	C-Washington	ACTIVE	1894420A0	4201678923	X
	10	Capitol University Hospital-DC - Radiology-Diagnostic	(None)	ACTIVE	1802420A0	4201021046	X

# Couples Matching

- Please check in with **Dr. Woodruff** to discuss strategy and logistics
- Check out <https://www.nrmp.org/residency-applicants/get-ready-for-the-match/couples-in-the-match/> and watch the “Couples in the Match” video

# Certifying the Rank Order List



2014 Main Residency Match

Applicant Rank Order List

Applicant Type: Senior in a U.S. Allopathic Medical School

Username: TomSawyer

NRMP ID: N0185532

AAMC ID: 54444444

USMLE ID: 5-555-555-5

Match Year: 2014

Applicant Status: **RANKING**

Fee Status: Paid

Primary Rank Order List    Supplemental ROLs    Find & Add Programs

• You may add Programs to the list by entering their NRMP Program Code below, or by Searching for them on the "Find & Add Programs" tab.

• Click, drag and drop the icons in the "Drag & Drop" column to move a Program's rank.

• Select "Remove" on any Program record below to delete it from the list.

Certify List

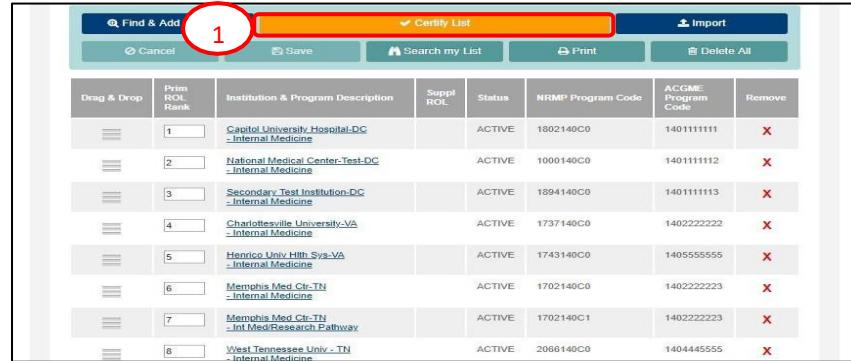
Drag & Drop	Prim ROL Rank	Institution & Program Description	Suppl ROL	Status	NRMP Program Code	ACGME Program Code	Remove
1	1	American Medical Center - Anesthesiology	A-Suppl	ACTIVE	1691040A0	0401111111	X
	2	American Medical Center - Family Medicine		ACTIVE	1691120C0	1201111111	X

Enter NRMP Program Code to add a Program: Rank: 3 Add & Save

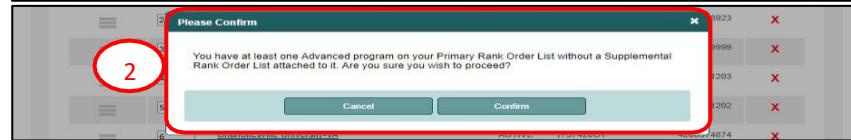
# Certifying Your ROL

Your rank order list must be certified to be used when the matching algorithm is processed. Changes can be made to your rank order list after it has been certified. However, once changed, the new version must be certified by the Rank Order List Certification Deadline in order to be used in the Match.

1. From the **Applicant Rank Order List** screen, Click **Certify List**.
2. Only if you have at least one advanced program listed and have not linked a supplemental list to that advanced program(s), the **Please Confirm** pop-up displays.
  - a. Click **Cancel** to return to your rank order list and link the supplemental list. Refer to the **Creating a Supplemental Rank Order List** guide for more information.
  - b. If you do not wish to link a supplemental list, click **Confirm** to certify your list.
3. The **Please Enter Your Authentication Information** pop-up displays. Review the information.
4. Enter your password in the **Password** field and click **Submit**.



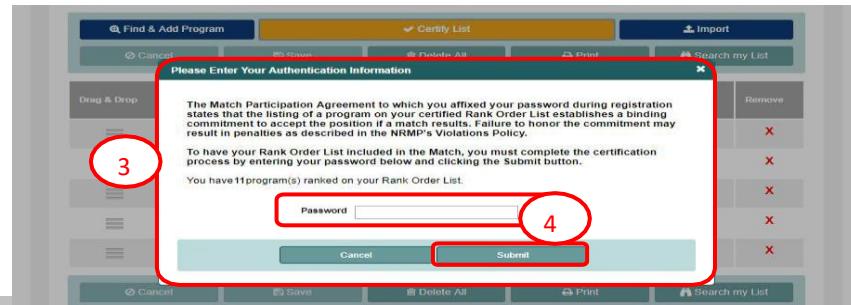
Drag & Drop	Prim Rank	Institution & Program Description	Suppl ROL	Status	NRMP Program Code	ACGME Program Code	Remove
	1	Capitol University Hospital-DC - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	1802140C0	1401111111	X
	2	National Medical Center-Test-DC - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	1000140C0	1401111112	X
	3	Secondary Test Institution-DC - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	1894140C0	1401111113	X
	4	Charlottesville University-VA - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	1737140C0	1402222222	X
	5	Henrico Univ Hlth Sys-VA - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	1743140C0	1405555555	X
	6	Memphis Med Ctr-TN - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	1702140C0	1402222223	X
	7	Memphis Med Ctr-TN - Int Med/Research Pathway		ACTIVE	1702140C1	1402222223	X
	8	West Tennessee Univ - TN - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	2066140C0	1404445555	X



Please Confirm

You have at least one Advanced program on your Primary Rank Order List without a Supplemental Rank Order List attached to it. Are you sure you wish to proceed?

Cancel Confirm



Please Enter Your Authentication Information

The Match Participation Agreement to which you affixed your password during registration states that by linking a program on your Primary Rank Order List establishes a binding commitment to accept a position if a match results. Failure to honor the commitment may result in penalties as described in the NRMP's Violations Policy.

To have your Rank Order List included in the Match, you must complete the certification process by entering your password below and clicking the Submit button.

You have 11 program(s) ranked on your Rank Order List.

Password

Cancel Submit

# Certifying Your ROL

5. The green note confirms the rank order list has been certified.

6. Your **Applicant Status** is **CERTIFIED**.

7. To edit a certified rank order list, click **Edit List**.

8. The **Please Enter Your Authentication Information** pop-up displays. Enter your password.

- Click **Cancel** to leave the list Certified.
- Click **Submit** to edit the list.

9. Edit the list as needed.

Note: NRMP does not retain previously saved versions of your rank order list. If changes are made and saved, the previous list is no longer available

**When any changes are made, the list must be saved and certified prior to the Rank Order List Certification Deadline.**

The screenshot shows the Match website interface. At the top, a green banner displays the message "✓ ROL certified successfully." Below this, the "Applicant Rank Order List" page is shown. On the right side of the page, there is a summary box with the following information: "Match Year: 2018", "Applicant Status: CERTIFIED", "Fee Status: Paid", and "Verification Status: Verified". A red circle with the number 5 is around the green success message. A red circle with the number 6 is around the "Applicant Status: CERTIFIED" text. A red circle with the number 7 is around the "Edit List" button.

Prim ROL Rank	Institution & Program Description	Suppl ROL	Status	NRMP Program Code	ACGME Program Code
1	Capitol University Hospital-DC - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	1802140C0	1401111111
2	National Medical Center-Test-DC - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	1000140C0	1401111112
3	Secondary Test Institution-DC - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	1094140C0	1401111113
4	Charlottesville University-VA - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	1737140C0	1402222222
5	Henrico Univ Hlth Sys-VA - Internal Medicine		ACTIVE	1743140C0	1405555555

The screenshot shows a "Please Enter Your Authentication Information" pop-up window. The window contains a message: "Your applicant status will be changed from Certified to Ranking. After editing, you must click the Submit button to change your applicant status from Certified to Ranking and edit your rank order list." Below the message is a "Password:" input field and two buttons: "Cancel" and "Submit". A red circle with the number 8 is around the "Applicant Status" text in the background.

# Modifying Certified Rank Order List

- If you change your certified rank order list by adding, moving, or deleting a program, the previous rank order list is deleted.
- You can re-certify your rank list multiple times, however....
- You must certify your rank order list again for it to be used in the Match.

# Rank Order List Confirmation

- Print a copy of your final rank order list after submission.
- The NRMP will send a confirmation to your email address after you certify your rank order list.
- PSOM staff will be able to confirm that you have a match status of CERTIFIED on the NRMP website (and Tyler will be checking!)

# Making the Match Work for You

# How the Match Algorithm Works

- Applicant “proposing”
- Starts with an attempt to place an applicant in the program ranked #1 by the applicant
- A tentative Match occurs:
  - if the program also ranked the applicant and the program has unfilled positions
  - if the program is filled but the applicant is ranked higher than another applicant tentatively matched to that program

# How the Match Algorithm Works

- There is no match if:
  - the program did not rank the applicant
  - the program ranked the applicant but is filled with other applicants more preferred by the program
- Matches are final when:
  - when the algorithm completes its cycles
- Couples match when:
  - the algorithm places a couple in their highest ranked pair of programs on the PRIMARY list where BOTH matched

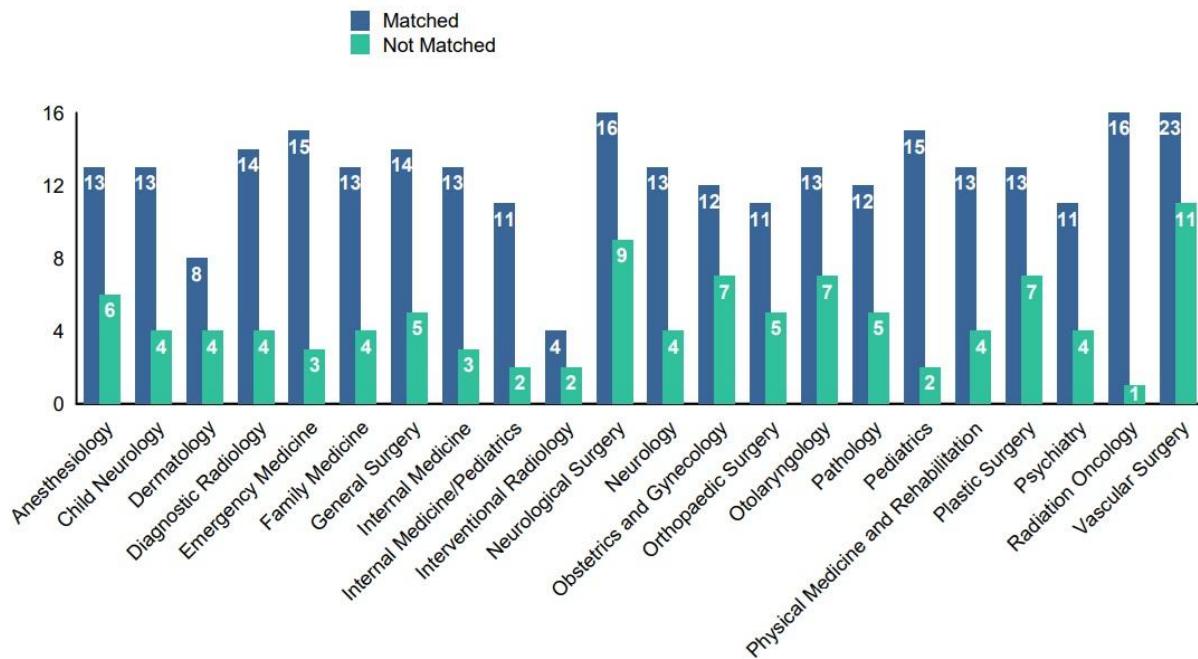
# Deans' Ranking Advice

- Meet with your career advisor to discuss strategy
- Aim high & rank all programs: **the algorithm favors you**
- Take advantage of the 20 FREE!
- The #1 reason students don't match is because they didn't rank enough programs
- Even if a program says "We will rank you #1", this is not a guarantee
- Do not wait until March 4<sup>th</sup> to certify. Aim for February 18 or at least one week before the deadline as a buffer!
- Trust us: You do not want to go through the SOAP

# Rank Order List Length by Specialty

Chart  
4

## Median Number of Contiguous Ranks of U.S. MD Seniors by Preferred Specialty and Match Status



## Important Context

Program Signaling has lowered many of these numbers notably, even in less competitive specialties

# Deans' Ranking Advice

When should you not rank a program?

Only when you would rather be unmatched than be at that program.

# Final Considerations

## Don't Overthink This!

Rank in bundles (First Tier, Second Tier, Third Tier) and **rank your true preferences**. The Match favors you!

## Plan Ahead

Complete your list at least a week before the March 4<sup>th</sup> deadline. If you wait until the last minute, servers may be overloaded and very slow.

## Complete All Steps

Be sure to certify your rank order list.

## Trust yourself!

Do not make last minute changes to your rank order list. Most such changes are not well thought-out, and applicants frequently regret the changes.

# Getting Your Match Results

# Monday, March 16, 2026

At 9:00 a.m. (CST), applicants log into the NRMP R3 system and receive one of the following messages:

1. Congratulations, you have matched
2. Congratulations, you have matched to an advanced position, but not a first-year position
3. Congratulations, you have matched to a one-year position
4. We are sorry, you did not match to any position
5. You are NOT matched because you did not submit a certified rank order list
6. You are NOT matched because you are withdrawn

# **SOAP: Supplementary Offer and Acceptance Program**

# SOAP

- SOAP is not a second match. It is a series of offers by programs.
- The NRMP R3 System offers positions to applicants in order of a program's preference.
- Applicants can receive multiple offers in any one round.
- Positions offered / accepted during SOAP establish a binding commitment / enforced by the Match Participation Agreement.
- OB/GYN and EM have their own SOAP in ResidencyCAS

# Match Week Schedule

Monday, March 16, 8:30 a.m. CST	PSOM gets embargoed unmatched seniors report
Monday, March 16, 9:00 a.m. CST	Applicant “Did I Match?” email
	Program “Did I Fill?”
	Unfilled (SOAP) positions posted online
Tuesday-Wednesday	Applicant/program communication
Thursday, March 19	SOAP offers extended (Round 1 @ 8 a.m.)
Friday, March 20, 10:00 a.m. CST	Match Day ceremonies begin
11:00 a.m.	Match results available to applicants + open envelopes

# FAQs

- I loved almost all of the programs I saw. How do I decide where I really want to go?
- How do I decide where to put the University of Chicago on my rank list?
- How much should I value personal life over professional opportunities?

# Reminders

- Complete Residency Interview Survey in the next week.
- AAMC 2026 Graduation Questionnaire opens in February
  - You will receive further instructions from Pritzker about the survey
  - High response rate is expected!
    - And rewarded!