

Association of Professors of Dermatology Residency Program Directors Section

<u>Updated information Regarding the 2022-2023 Application Cycle</u> *Updated October 18, 2022*

This statement updates the prior statement and includes additional guidance regarding communication with programs during the application cycle. The previously released statement is included below which covers aspects of the application cycle, including supplemental ERAS application, interview release dates, and virtual interviews.

Communication with programs

Given the uncertainty applicants face regarding how and whether to communicate with residency programs during the application process, particularly around and immediately after interviews, the Association of Professors of Dermatology Residency Program Directors Section has developed the following guidelines for applicants and programs during the current 2022-2023 application cycle:

Before and during interview season, applicants are asked to refrain from contacting programs to express interest or provide application updates prior to interviews, except in truly exceptional circumstances (eg couples matching updates, major life events that impact preferences). Questions about a program that cannot be easily answered by available materials (website, social media, etc) can be directed to the program.

Post-interview communication of preference – including "letters of intent" and thank you letters – should not be sent to programs. These types of communication are typically not used by residency programs in decision-making and lead to downstream pressures on applicants.

Programs are also encouraged to either avoid direct communication with applicants after interviews and before Match Day, or at a minimum, ensure that such communication is informational in nature, avoiding efforts to persuade or pressure candidates, in line with NRMP guidelines. Applicants should not equate lack of communication from programs with lack of interest, just as programs will not equate lack of communication from applicants with lack of interest.

Supplemental application

Most dermatology programs are utilizing the supplemental ERAS application. For more information, including a list of participating programs, please see AAMC's <u>website</u>. Program-specific information including use of supplemental application, interview invite release, and interview dates can be found <u>here</u>.

Coordinated interview invite release

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There will be three sets of interview invite release dates. Participating programs will not release more interview invites than interview slots available. Programs not participating have also been asked to follow this guideline and to post the date of interview invite release on their websites. A list of participating programs will be released later in mid to late August. Last year, over 80% of programs participated, with about 1/3 of those (36 programs) releasing on the early date and 2/3 (61 programs) releasing on the later date. For this year, most programs will be releasing on November 21 with fewer programs releasing on the early and late dates, respectively.

Timeline for participating programs only

First set of dates

Monday November 7, 2022: first round of interview invites released (generally for programs with November or early December interview dates)

Wednesday November 9, 2022: applicants begin scheduling interviews; must respond by November 11

Additional interview invites will be released as they become available starting after November 11, 2022.

Second set of dates

Monday November 21, 2022: second round of interview invites released (generally for programs with late December or January interview dates)

Monday November 28, 2022: applicants begin scheduling interviews; must respond by November 30

Additional interview invites will be released as they become available starting after November 30, 2022.

Third set of dates

Monday December 5, 2022: third round of interview invites released (generally for programs with January or February interview dates)

Monday December 7, 2022: applicants begin scheduling interviews; must respond by December 9

Additional interview invites will be released as they become available starting after December 9, 2022.

Programs have been encouraged to notify all applicants of their status (interview, waitlist or decline) by January 1, 2023.

Interview formats and recruiting activities

The <u>AAMC released a statement</u> recommending virtual interviews across specialties for the 2022-2023 application cycle. The APD Residency Program Directors Section aligns with the AAMC statement. A guiding principle of this recommendation is to promote equity in the

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application process. We have encouraged dermatology residency programs to conduct interviews virtually this cycle and to share this information with applicants early in the process.