

SOAP Highlights for Institutional Officials

SOAP Principles

- Programs participating in SOAP **MUST** accept applications only through ERAS and **MUST** offer unfilled positions only through SOAP until 11:00 a.m. ET on Thursday of Match Week.
 - Program directors cannot contact applicants or their representatives until their application is received.
 - Program directors cannot “create” positions for unmatched applicants.
 - Program directors cannot contact SOAP-ineligible applicants until SOAP concludes.

Note: NO program director, regardless of Match-participation status, can discuss, interview for, or offer non-Match positions to SOAP-eligible applicants.

Note: NO institution administrator or faculty member can contact directors of unfilled programs on behalf of unmatched applicants until the program initiates contact.

- Programs can opt out of SOAP but **CANNOT** extend offers until after SOAP concludes at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time on Thursday of Match Week.
- At the conclusion of SOAP:
 - Programs can “create” positions **ONLY** for partially-matched applicants beginning at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time on Thursday.
- **Positions offered/accepted during SOAP establish a binding commitment enforced by the Match Participation Agreement.**

How SOAP Works

- Applicants express preferences by applying to programs using ERAS.
- Programs express preferences with lists of applicants created in the R3 system.
- Positions are offered through the R3 system to applicants in order of a program’s preference list and according to the number of unfilled positions remaining in the program.
 - Applicants have 2 hours in which to accept, reject, or let offers expire.
Note: Offers rejected will NOT immediately be issued to the next available applicant on the program’s preference list. Offers are extended ONLY at the start of a SOAP round.
 - The R3 system updates preference lists real-time to show whether applicants have accepted or rejected offers or have become unavailable because an offer has been accepted in another program.
 - Programs receive an email notification when an offer is accepted.

Verifying Program Participation in SOAP

To participate in SOAP, programs must set the SOAP Participation Indicator in the R3 system to “Yes”. **SOAP participation status of programs MUST be approved in the R3 system by the Institutional Official. The deadline to set the SOAP Participation Indicator is the Rank Order List Deadline.**

[VIEW MATCH WEEK/SOAP CALENDAR](#)