

# FELLOWSHIP: THE PROCESS

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## GAME PLAN

Decide on a Fellowship

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The Application Process

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Interviews

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The Match



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## DECIDING ON A FELLOWSHIP

**Lots to Consider:**

- Your interests and skills
- Your career goals – present and future
- Lifestyle

**Experience and Exposure**

- Make sure you have enough experience in the field(s) of interest
- Try and vary the type of experiences
  - **Away rotations**
  - Different settings (community vs. academic, outpatient vs. inpatient care in subspecialty)
  - Attending conferences (PAS, AAP National conferences)

**Ask Around**

- Talk to Attendings and colleagues within the field of interest
- Gain Insight on their experiences and any advice they may have to offer

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## PEDIATRIC FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- o Adolescent Medicine
- o Child Abuse
- o Developmental-Behavioral
- o Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine
- o Cardiology
- o Critical Care
- o Emergency Medicine
- o Endocrinology
- o Gastroenterology
- o Hematology/Oncology
- o Hospitalist Medicine
- o Infectious Disease
- o Nephrology
- o Pulmonology
- o Rheumatology

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## THE APPLICATION PROCESS: TO DO LIST

The Overall Process:

1. Visit ERAS/NRMP website and make note of all important dates
2. Recommendation letters
3. Personal Statement
4. Deciding where to apply
5. ERAS application
6. The Exceptions

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## WHEN TO BEGIN?

All fellowships have moved to the fall match cycle!

Visit NRMP website for more information – <http://www.nrmp.org/participating-fellowships/>

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## DATES FOR THE 2018 FALL MATCH

- June 7: Register for ERAS and begin application/uploading documents
- July 6: Applicants start to apply to programs
- July 15: Programs can begin receiving applications
- Sept 27: Match Opens 12 PM
- Oct 25: Ranking Opens 12 PM
- Nov 15: Quota Change Deadline 11:59 PM (more for programs)
- Nov 29: Rank Order List Deadline 9 PM
- Dec 13: Match Day at 12 PM!
- Dates Vary and Change
  - Visit: <http://www.nrmp.org/participating-fellowships/>

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## PERSONAL STATEMENT

- Start early and write multiple drafts AND show multiple people (not just your family/friends)
- Should address why you are interested in this field and what you can contribute
- What you anticipate your career goals to be
- Try and have this ready **EARLY**.

Some letter writers ask for this and your CV prior to writing your letter




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## RECOMMENDATION LETTERS: ASK EARLY!

- A minimum of 3 letters are required, can upload as many as 4 letters
- One letter must be from your program director
- Ideally, two or more letters from the people within the subspecialty you are applying to
  - Or one can be from an attending you've worked with extensively well/knows you well and can write you a strong letter
  - Quality>Quantity
- Review individual program requirements
- Don't be afraid to remind letter writers nicely ☺
- Letters will be submitted via EFDO (ERAS fellowship documents office)
  - Your writer will need the following information:
    - AAMC ID
    - Applicant Name
    - Letter ID assigned (generated once you specify a letter writer on your ERAS application)

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## DECIDING WHERE TO APPLY

- Number of programs to apply to depends on subspecialty
  - The more competitive the specialty, the more you should apply to
  - Visa considerations
  - Couples match
- Location
- Knowing your career goals
  - Academic vs. Clinical
- A good variety of competitiveness




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## COUPLES MATCH

- Applicants **MUST** be participating in the same Match in order to couple
- A match is established only if both partners match at a pair of ranked program
- Couples have the option to rank a **"No Match"** code
- If one partner wants to withdraw from the Match, BOTH partners first must uncouple and individuals can rank individually

[http://www.nmp.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Applicant\\_Coupling-App.pdf](http://www.nmp.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Applicant_Coupling-App.pdf)

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## ERAS CHECKLIST

- ✓ USMLE/COMLEX- USA Transcripts
- ✓ ECFMG
- ✓ Personal Statement
- ✓ Letters of Recommendation
  - ✓ Some subspecialties require additional paperwork to accompany the LOR
- ✓ Application
- ✓ CV
- ✓ EFDO
  - ✓ Photograph (not a selfie!!)
  - ✓ Medical School Transcript
  - ✓ Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE)




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## INTERVIEWS: BE PATIENT

- If you think it was exhausting interviewing for residency...
- Some people get them early, some late; fellowships have their own timelines
- Know Yourself
  - What are you looking for in a program
  - What are your career goals
- Purpose for the fellowship program is to determine good fit ... but that goes for you too!!

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## INTERVIEW DAY: BE YOURSELF

- Know your application!
  - From College jobs to your current QI projects
- Ask Questions (and have more questions ready to go)
- Do your research about the hospital, program, and faculty!!!
- Be ready for lots and lots of interviews in one day (4-10 interviewers)
- Get to know the Fellows




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## INTERVIEW QUESTIONS: SAMPLE

### QUESTIONS ASKED

- Tell me about yourself
- Why this subspecialty?
- Why this hospital?
- Tell me about your experiences in research – what are you currently working on?
- What will you bring to this program?

### QUESTIONS TO ASK

- What are strengths/weaknesses of the program?
- What are some changes you expect in the near future?
- Ask Fellows
  - Typical Census
  - Is call in-house or at home? (for applicable specialties)
  - Faculty Support
  - Funding for conferences
  - Board Preparation

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## GETTING READY FOR MATCH: RANK IT!

- Don't forget to register on the NRMP website for R3
  - Consider entering your NRMP number on ERAS (will make it easier for fellowships to find/rank you)
- Thank You/ Follow Up Letters/ E-mails
  - Especially for programs of interest
- Rank Order List
  - Enter your Programs
  - Rank your programs
  - Certify your list
    - Your list must be certified to participate in match

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## ADDITIONAL TIPS

- Make a spreadsheet of all programs interviewed at
- Pros and cons list
- Note your costs
- Get contact info for all your fellows and faculty
- If you don't like a program don't RANK IT!

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## COSTS



Number of Programs	Application Fees
Up to 10	\$105
11-20	\$11 each additional
21-30	\$15 each additional
31+	\$26 each additional

### Additional Fees

- Couples match - \$15/person
- USMLE Transcript - \$75
- COMLEX - USA Transcript - \$75
- NRMP Match - \$65 (for up to 20 programs)
- Travel/Hotel Costs ©

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## LAST BUT NOT LEAST...



Wait for Match Day!

### What if I don't match?

- You are given access to the list of programs in your subspecialty that are unfilled
- Contact unfilled programs
- Phone Interview/ In-person interview
- If offered position...program will have sign letter of acceptance

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## QUESTIONS?

It all works out in the end ☺

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