

APDR Round Table Summary 8/18/22: ERAS SuppApp Education for Students

Moderator:Carolynn M. DeBenedectis MD, UMass Chan Medical School and Chair of the APDR Round Table Committee

Panelists

Brent Griffith, MD – PD Henry Ford Hospital

James C. Anderson, MD – PD Oregon Health and Science University

Quinn Meisinger, MD – IR/DR PD UC San Diego, APDIR

Joanna Kee-Sampson, MD – UF Health Jacksonville, APDIR

Anna Rozenshtein MD, MPH – PD Westchester Medical Center, APDR President

Scott Schwartz, MD – IR/DR PD Henry Ford

Christopher M. Straus MD, FAUR – Professor of Radiology University of Chicago, AMSER

Michael B. Sneider, MD – former PD and current Med Director Rad Student Rotations at University of Virginia, AMSER

- 2022 Match Data -DR
 - Applications to DR are up 12% for all applicants, 21% increase for US med grads
 - Number of applications per applicants were up 12% (66 apps per applicants)
 - Number of applications per program we up 21% (770 apps per program)
- 2022 Match Data -IR
 - Applications to DR are up 9% for all applicants, 14% increase for US med grads
 - Number of applications per applicants were up 47% (39 apps per applicants)
 - Number of applications per program we up 12% (160 apps per program)
- Unfilled positions in IR/DR match = 0 in 2022
- Unfiled positions in the DR match = 1 in 2022
- Supplemental application
 - Last year only dermatology, general surgery, IM participated
 - 16 this year including radiology
 - Goal the application is to help share more information about themselves and to provide better and more structured information to allow for holistic review of applications in a high application number setting
 - Section of the application
 - Past experiences
 - Allow applicants to highlight their most meaningful experiences and communicate who they are through those experiences
 - Can share 5 experiences (300-character limit) – most applicants submitted 4 or 5 experiences last year

- Other impactful experience essay (750 character limit)
 - Not intended for all applicants (30% did not fill out last year)
- Geographic preferences
 - Goal is to provide a mean for applicants to provide their geo preferences through a fair and accurate way
 - Optional
 - 300 character explanation for each preference
 - Only the programs in the region you select will see your preference and explanation
 - No info displayed for this if no in a preference area for you
 - If you select “you do not have a preference” it will show the program that
 - If you skip a question, it will show nothing
 - Regions your preference cannot see if you preferenced other regions
 - Also urban(pop>50,000) or rural (pop<2500) preference option
 - Only applies to the interview selection process not the ranking
- Program signal
 - Provide applicants the opportunity to share a genuine interest in a program
 - Radiology has 6 signals (6 total for both IR/DR and DR Combined if you dual apply)
 - Signal only applies to the interview selection process no the ranking
- Must complete supplemental application between Aug 1st – Sept 16th
- **DO NOT TRY TO OUT GUESS THE SYSTEM – BASE YOUR ANSWERS ON YOUR TRUE PREFERENCES**
- <https://students-residents.aamc.org/applying-residencies-eras/specialties-participating-supplemental-eras-application>
- Q & A
 - Is there any national guidance on whether or not students should signal home programs or programs at which they completed away rotations?
 - You should signal them unless told otherwise by the home program or away program
 - Do we submit the supplemental application to our internal medicine transitions year programs for the advanced programs?
 - No. Only categorical IM programs participate in supplemental application
 - Is it redundant to signal both the IR and DR programs of an institution?
 - If you really want to be at certain program and you are willing to do IR or DR/ESIR at this program, then I would signal both. The IR and DR programs usually work together, however, so the signal may be redundant. Your geographic preference would assist with this. If it was me, I would only signal 1 program at 1 institution and save your other 5 signals for other programs
 - For the meaningful experiences section–would you recommend listing experiences while in medical school or would it be appropriate to share any meaningful experience?
 - Any. We want to know who you are. Regular ERAS apps should only list medical school or important undergrad experiences.
 - The "meaningful experiences" section in the supplemental application sounds similar to the "noteworthy characteristics" part of the MSPE. Should these be distinct experiences?

- Not necessarily. The supp app experiences are like a highlight reel for you.
- Can programs see the supplemental app on Sept 16th? This would be before ERAS is submitted.
 - The Supplemental Application is available to programs at the same time as the ERAS applications (Sept 28th)
- Are signals used in rank list decisions or only for interview invites?
 - Interviews
- Will programs be able to see supplemental applications prior to ERAS applications?
 - No. The Supp Apps will be made available to programs at the same time the myERAS applications are made available to programs, which will be 9/28
- Would you recommend signaling the same program for both IR and DR in the event that an applicant is dual applying?
 - If you really want to be at certain program and you are willing to do IR or DR/ESIR at this program, then I would signal both. The IR and DR programs usually work together, however, so the signal may be redundant. Your geographic preference would assist with this. If it was me, i would only signal 1 program at 1 institution and save your other 5 signals for additional programs
- If in a particular region you plan to signal 1 program, do you still need to preference that region as well for that 1 program?
 - You don't NEED to do anything. But I would indicate my real preference, and if I were REALLY interested in that one program outside the region of your interest, just use the signal. Because you have so few signals, they are a strong preference, trumping the geographic preferences
- Are programs allowed to ask in interviews if you have preferenced other regions/signaled other programs? Or is that a Match violation?
 - No they cannot ask about where else you applied.
- Not sure if we had any feedback or say on these recommendations, but under the DR and IR heading (page 16), the AAMC recommends that students signal the home institution and places for away rotations (<https://students-residents.aamc.org/media/12326/download>)
 - Although there are suggested guidelines, programs are allowed to use signals in whatever manner they like. The APDR and APDIR recommend you signal home institutions and away rotations, unless you receive different guidance from those specific institutions.
- what do you think about signaling the programs out of our geographic preference?
 - If you would be happy at that institution, then yes
- Are signals supposed to completely replace pre-interview letters of interest? Are most programs restricting emailed correspondence this year?
 - I would agree. The amount of pre-interview LOI were getting excessive. The supp app helps replace this. It is also more specific, because i know you can only signal 6. In prior years, some applicants would send > 20 LOI
 - Pre-interview letters of interest are not limited in number, and therefore are not very useful. Because signals are limited in number, they are are very strong messages of interest
- which one is more important for programs signaling or geographic preference?

- I would think a program-specific signal would be more important for a single program