



University of Michigan
Health System

The Match Process: A Student Perspective

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Incoming PGY1

Disclosures

- None

- **Sub-Internships**
- **Choosing programs**
- **Interview tips**
- **Uncomfortable situations to be prepared for**

Sub-I tips for success

- **Arrive early**
- **Pre-round**
- **Get to the OR when possible**
- **Be prepared for all cases**
- **Take initiative in the OR**
- **Be a team player**
- **Anticipate**
- **Follow up and follow through**

Away sub-Is

- **Talk to your program director**
- **Another month of experience**
- **Different perspectives and approaches**
- **Insight on what you want in a program**
- **Atmosphere of the program**

Choosing programs

- **General vs vascular**
- **How many?**
- **What are your future career goals?**
- **Research?**
- **Open vs endovascular experience**

Your application

- **Keep separate applications**
 - Personal statements
 - LORs

- **General surgery programs may assume they are your backup**

Letters of recommendation

- **Ideally...**
 - General surgery (3)
 - Vascular surgery (3)
- **Pitfalls:**
 - Using a majority of vascular surgeon LORs for your general surgery application
 - Lack of face time with letter writer → generic

- **Scheduling tips:**
 - 1-2 less desirable first
 - Front load vascular interviews
 - Back load general surgery interviews
- **Saving money is possible!**
 - Meet people early, share rooms

 - But sometimes it is worth spending the extra \$20...

Don't underestimate first impressions



Who would you hire (for a job outside of Hollywood)?

Other interview pearls

- **Do your research on the program**
- **Know a few things about the attendings**
- **Post-interviews**
 - Ask your program director to make a call for you

Prepare for tricky situations

- **Stay organized**
- **General surgery program asking about 0+5**
- **NEVER LIE!**
- **Program director calls**
- **Rank in order of YOUR preference regardless of outside information you may receive**

Summary

- **Be prepared on your sub-internship and give it your all**
- **Keep separate general surgery and vascular surgery applications**
- **Be strategic in interview scheduling**
- **Always be honest**
- **Make your rank list according to YOUR OWN preferences**
- **HAVE FUN!**

Thank you

