

How to Interview and Prepare Fellowship Applications: Program Director Perspective

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Disclosures

No financial relationships to disclose

Overview

- Be Timely
- Be Realistic
- Be Thorough
- Be Honest
- Be Inquisitive
- Be Enthusiastic



Be timely

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Timeline

Please reference the information below for details on important ERAS and EFDO application dates and deadlines. For information on participating specialties and their application season, visit the [ERAS Participating Specialties & Program](#) webpage.

December Application Cycle Timeline (for positions starting July 2021)

Year	Date	Description
2019	Jun 6	You may submit your ERAS Fellowships token request. Tokens will be sent via email at the time you request your token and the transaction has been completed. Once you have purchased your token, register at MyERAS. Go to the MyERAS homepage . Use your token to register, log in and start working on your application.
	Nov 15	Fellowship applicants may begin applying to December application cycle fellowship programs. Programs will not have access to review application materials until December 1.
	Dec 1	ERAS opens for December application cycle fellowship programs. The ERAS application and supporting documents are made available to programs you have designated. Applications submitted on or before this date will be considered as submitted on December 1. The EFDO transmits documents every business day until May 31, 2020.
2020	May 31	ERAS closes, ending current ERAS season.
2021	Jul 1	Fellowship training begins.

Be timely

THE MATCH
NATIONAL RESIDENT MATCHING PROGRAM®

RESIDENCY FELLOWSHIP POLICIES DATA AND REPORTS ABOUT

MATCH CALENDARS LOGIN/REGISTER

Vascular Surgery

Vascular Surgery focuses on the diagnosis and longitudinal treatment of disorders of the arterial, venous, and lymphatic systems, excluding vessels of the brain and heart. Additional information can be found through the Association of Program Directors in Vascular Surgery at www.vascular.org.

- Applicants must have completed a residency in General Surgery
- Vascular Surgery fellowships are two years in length

IMPORTANT DATES

2019	
JAN 23	Match Opens at 12:00 p.m. ET
MAR 20	Ranking Opens at 12:00 p.m. ET
APR 17	Quota Change Deadline at 11:59 p.m. ET
MAY 1	Rank Order List Certification Deadline at 9:00 p.m. ET
MAY 15	Match Day at 12:00 p.m. ET!

ERAS – www.aamc.org
NRMP – www.nrmp.org Timeline

The Stats

Match 2017
Appointment Year 2018

Vascular Surgery

Program Statistics	Number	%
→ Enrolled Programs	97	
Withdrawn Programs	1	
Certified Programs	96	
Programs Filled	87	90.6%
Programs Unfilled	9	9.4%
→ Certified Positions	121	
Positions Filled	112	92.6%
→ Positions Unfilled	9	7.4%

Applicant Statistics	Number	%
Matched Applicants	112	
U.S. Grad	80	71.4%
U.S. Foreign	11	9.8%
Osteopathic	9	8.0%
Foreign	11	9.8%
Canadian	1	0.9%
Applicants Preferring this Specialty *	127	
Matched to this Specialty	112	88.2%
Matched to Different Specialty	0	0.0%
→ Did not Match to any Program	15	11.8%

Match 2018
Appointment Year 2019

Vascular Surgery

Program Statistics	Number	%
→ Enrolled Programs	99	
Withdrawn Programs	8	
Certified Programs	91	
Programs Filled	77	84.6%
Programs Unfilled	14	15.4%
→ Certified Positions	121	
Positions Filled	105	86.8%
→ Positions Unfilled	16	13.2%

Applicant Statistics	Number	%
Matched Applicants	105	
U.S. Grad	73	69.5%
U.S. Foreign	13	12.4%
Osteopathic	12	11.4%
Foreign	7	6.7%
Applicants Preferring this Specialty *	111	
Matched to this Specialty	105	94.6%
Matched to Different Specialty	0	0.0%
→ Did not Match to any Program	6	5.4%

The Stats

Match 2019
Appointment Year 2020

Vascular Surgery

Program Statistics	Number	%
Enrolled Programs	96	
Active Programs	1	
Ranking Programs	0	
Withdrawn Programs	4	
Certified Programs	92	
Programs Filled	90	97.8%
Programs Unfilled	2	2.2%
Certified Positions	118	
Positions Filled	115	97.5%
Positions Unfilled	3	2.5%
Applicant Statistics	Number	%
Matched Applicants	115	
U.S. Grad	81	70.4%
U.S. Foreign	12	10.4%
Osteopathic	15	13.0%
Foreign	7	6.1%
Applicants Preferring this Specialty *	129	
Matched to this Specialty	114	88.4%
Matched to Different Specialty	0	0.0%
Did not Match to any Program	15	11.6%

Be Realistic

- Where should you apply?
 - University and Community Programs
- How many programs should you apply?
 - Average 20-25 programs
- How many programs should you interview
 - Average 10-12
- Geographic considerations
- What's your training goal ?



Be Thorough

- Include in your application
 - Research: Abstracts and posters, local, regional or national meetings.
 - ABSITE scores
 - Consider your state ACS or local society for presentations.
 - Every research effort counts.

- Letters of Recommendation
 - Ask with plenty of time
 - Personalize and give updated CV
 - Ask someone who really knows you
 - PD, Research mentor, Division Chief



Be Honest

- Personal Statement
- Do not embellish
- Give insight to your strengths and career goals
- No “telenovelas”



Be Enthusiastic



- The interview process
 - Is the program right for you?
 - Are you a good fit for the program?
 - Be yourself
- Do your homework
 - Faculty training backgrounds
 - Academic and clinical interests

Be Inquisitive

- Have specific questions that matter to your training goals
 - Case volume, case mix
 - Formal education curriculum
 - OR autonomy
 - Boards passing rate
 - Faculty transitions
 - Leadership changes
 - Graduated fellows jobs
- Make a list to compare programs

what are other
words for
be inquisitive about?

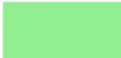


snoop, be curious about,
pry into, inquire into,
inquire about,
be inquisitive of, poke about



Category	Primary	Secondary	Total	Minimum
Abdominal	59	5	64	30
Cerebrovascular	70	2	72	25
Peripheral	140	37	177	45
Complex	56	19	75	10
Endovascular Diagnostic	121	449	570	100
Endovascular Therapeutic	222	133	355	80
Endovascular Aneurysm Repair	73	10	83	20

 Minimum not met (final year)

 Minimum met (final year)

Be Inquisitive

- Do your homework!
- Think about answers to the basic questions
- Be familiar with your CV
- Be able to talk about any paper/ research you listed
- Have an interesting vascular case ready

Be Sound



- Treat this process as a real job interview
- Be professional
- Don't do/say things you may regret
- First impressions matter
- Every interaction can have repercussions
- Be nice and thankful to support staff
- Be friendly to other applicants

After your visit

- Send thank you letters – express continued interest
- Analyze your visits and compare
- Speak to your advisors
- Ask your mentor/advisor/PD to make a phone call
- Submit final rank list



Conclusion

- Treat this process like a job interview
- Submit your application on time
- Talk to your faculty and mentors
- Know your goals
- Make a plan
- Be prepared
- Be professional

