

OSA S.T.E.P.S. to Success

ERAS Updates for 2027

1. Scholarly Work Replaces Publications

When the 2027 MyERAS portal opens in **June 2026**, the familiar "Publications" section will be renamed **Scholarly Work**.

- The redesigned section is built to highlight your **most meaningful** academic and research outputs, not a raw count of publications.
- You will be able to provide context about your role, depth of contribution, and the significance of the work.
- Programs can now incorporate scholarly work more holistically into their review, moving away from volume-based assessments.
- Avoid the temptation to list everything — programs are looking for authentic engagement and a clear explanation your contributions.

2. New AAMC Letter Writer Portal — Launching June 1, 2026

Beginning with the 2027 cycle, all Letters of Recommendation (LoRs) must be submitted through the new **AAMC Letter Writer Portal**.

- **Letters already submitted** by June 1 will be automatically transferred.
- **Pending requests** (sent before June 1 where the letter has not yet been submitted) will expire and must be re-submitted after June 1.
- Faculty will receive an email with a direct link and can sign in using their **AAMC ID** or can submit as guest.
- This update is designed to simplify workflows, improve transparency, and support more consistent letter submissions.

3. Standardized Letters of Evaluation (SLOEs) — New Specialties Added

ERAS is piloting a new integrated Standardized Letter of Evaluation (SLOE) system within the portal. **Dermatology, Plastic Surgery, and Urology** are now participating alongside previously participating specialties.

- Students applying to these specialties must specifically request the letter as a **SLOE ("Standardized")** in the new portal.
- Letter writers will complete specialty-specific questions about the applicant **directly in the portal** — rather than uploading a separate narrative document.
- **Students applying to Dermatology, Urology, or Plastic Surgery should wait until after June 1, 2026** to submit their SLOE request.

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OSA STEPS to Success

S. Self-Assessment
T. Target Specialty
E. Experience
P. Preparation & Planning
S. Strategy Execution

How Can OSA Help You?

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