

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



## Class of 2026 Match Day

### March: The Match

Congratulations to the Class of 2026 on another successful residency Match! We are extremely proud of our seniors for their hard work resulting in a 98% pre-SOAP/100% post-SOAP match rate ([NRMP Data Highlights](#)). We are excited for their future and look forward to watching their careers grow. Your Match Day is a year away and as many of you now have finalized your specialty choices, we are gearing up for more specialty-specific advising.

Check out Where [UMSOM Students Match](#)

### Career Booster: Tip of the Month

#### Developing Your Personal Narrative.

Residency programs are increasingly adopting a holistic approach to identify applicants who align well with their values and culture. Your application offers several opportunities to share your personal story, including the personal statement, MSPE noteworthy characteristics, and experience descriptions. Start by reflecting on your "why" – your professional mission and vision, and why you've chosen your specialty. Think about what makes you unique: your passions, motivations, and the experiences that shape you. Let programs get to know the real you!

**Tip: Review Mission and Brand by Dr. Lumpkins**  
[OSA Insider Podcast Episode 72](#)

**Office of Student Affairs**  
[Studentaffairs@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:Studentaffairs@som.umaryland.edu)

### Specialty-Specific Advising

#### [Specialty Advisors](#)

Specialty Meetings Apr|May [Links](#)

Anesthesiology	4.28	4P
Dermatology	4.30	4P
Emergency	4.27	4P
Med		
Family Med	4.28	4:30P
Internal Med	Independent*	
Neurology	Independent*	
Neurosurgery	4.20	3:30P
OBGYN	4.29	3:30P
Ophthalmology	4.21	3:30P
Otolaryngology	4/21	3:30P
Orthopedics	4.29	4:30P
Pathology	Independent*	
Pediatrics	4.24	4P
Psychiatry	4.23	3:30P
Radiology	4.20	4:30P
Surgery^	4.29	4P
Urology	4.23	4:30P

\*Independent – we will reach out

^Includes Plastics, Thoracic,  
Vascular

### OSA STEPS to Success

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

## Your Next Steps: Action Items

- Redeem your ERAS token to access your MyERAS Workstation
  - Tokens will be issued by OSA Monday April 6
  - Look for an OSA email outlining ERAS/Application Components
- Applying to OBGYN/EM/Ophtho? email [aesselman@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:aesselman@som.umaryland.edu)
- Consider your narrative – develop mission/brand/themes
- Develop/Update your C.V. ([CV Tips](#))
- If you are considering an enrichment/gap year off – let us know ASAP
- Refine or Confirm your Career/Specialty Choice

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## Resources at Your Fingertips

The OSA Residency Application Manual

<https://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/osa/advising/residency-application-manual/>

- [Specialty Exploration](#)
- [Application Calendars](#)
- [OSA Advising Workshop Series](#) – 2027
- [Application Parts](#) (CV, Personal Statement, MSPE, Transcripts, Photo, and more)

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## ACP Scheduling – Reminders

Student self-scheduling (Add/Drop period) opened Mar 30, 2026. Scheduling resources can be found [here](#).

- Add [Extramural/Away rotations](#) to your SOM schedule
- Changes to [Ambulatory Rotations](#) require approval from Dr. Millstein
- Drops must be made at least 4 wks prior to Sub-I start (2 wks for electives)

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## What's Ahead: Our Next Focus

OSA specialty-specific meetings – Dates/Times [here](#)

The Preliminary and TY Application – May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 4 pm

### OSA Insider Podcasts

[Apple Podcasts](#)

E 72: Mission & Brand

E 24, 25: Applying to Residencies

E95: A Brave Career Path

**NEW!** Residency Application Series:

E127 Deciding on a Specialty in M3

E128 Applying to Residency! ENT

E129 Applying to Residency! IR/DR

E130 IM Program Director, Dr. Baek

E131 Gen Surg PD, Dr. Kavic

E132 Applying to Residency! Ophtho

E133 Applying to Residency! Derm

### How Can OSA Help You?

[Administrative Support](#)

#### VSLO

Bailey Jenkins

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#### Registration

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#### ERAS/ResidencyCAS/SF Match/NRMP

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#### Financial Aid

Sofia Cascio/Juanita Simmons

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#### OSA Career Advisors

[OSA Deans](#)

Kerri Thom, MD

John Allen, MD

Marissa Flaherty, MD

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