

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



## March: The Residency Application – Overview and Timeline

The class of 2026 Match Day is around the corner ... And that means that the 2027 Residency Application Cycle will officially be opening soon! This month we will focus on the **BIG picture overview** of the residency application process and provide a roadmap for what is to come.

### [Residency Application Manual](#) – **General Resources for Career Advising**

- Check out the OSA [General Advising Calendar](#)
- Attend upcoming [Workshops](#)
- Lookout for Monthly OSA STEPS Newsletters
- OSA Specialty Specific Advising Sessions in Apr/May
- OSA 1:1 Advising in May/Jun/Jul

## Career Booster: Tip of the Month



Keep track of your progress with a Checklist! Keeping track of tasks during the residency application cycle can feel daunting, but using an organized checklist helps you manage your time and make sure you are keeping up with deadlines. You can find **personalized month-by-month checklists** for the Main Match, Military Match, and Early Match in the Residency Application Manual. *Note: Specific Dates and specialty-specific details are subject to change throughout the cycle.* [RAP – Checklists.](#)

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

### OSA STEPS to Success

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

### OSA Insider Podcasts

[Apple Podcasts](#)

- E92 Time Management
- E24, 25 Applying to Residency
- 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

## Your Next Steps: Action Items

- Complete the Advanced Clinical Phase Scheduling Process
- Apply for Extramural (Away) Rotations
- Schedule the USMLE Step 2 Examination (no later than 8/1/26)
- If you are considering an enrichment year off – let us know ASAP
- Refine or Confirm your Career/Specialty Choice

Please **confirm that your specialty choice is accurate on your MedScope/Career Profile**; Updates can be made by dragging selections

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## Resources at Your Fingertips

The OSA Residency Application Manual

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

- [Choosing a Specialty](#)
  - [The Residency Application Overview and Timeline](#)
  - [OSA Advising Workshop Series – 2027](#)
  - [The Advanced Clinical Phase and Extramural Rotations](#)
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## ACP Scheduling – Updates

Mar 6	Results of Elective Survey posted to your MedScope profile
Mar 9-11	Swap Period
Mar 11-16	Second Sub I Survey (Results posted Mar 23)
Mar 30	Student self-scheduling (Add/Drop period) begins
Apr 27	First rotation of the Advanced Clinical Phase begins

\*Scheduling resources can be found in the [OSA Academic Handbook](#).

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## What's Ahead: Our Next Focus

The Match – Data from the 2026 cycle

ERAS – 2027 cycle begins – students receive ERAS tokens (April)

Student self-scheduling opens

Time to register for your away rotations at SOM

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

### Office of Student Affairs

[Studentaffairs@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:Studentaffairs@som.umaryland.edu)

### How Can OSA Help You?

[Administrative Support](#)

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