

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



## March: The Match!!

Match Week is almost here! This is an exciting milestone and a moment to pause and recognize how far you have come. We are incredibly proud of the dedication, resilience, and growth you have shown throughout medical school. As the big week approaches, we have a few final reminders to help you feel confident and prepared.

**Rank Lists must be CERTIFIED by 3/4/26 at 9 PM – we highly recommend certifying no later than Mon 3/2** to avoid local server traffic issues in the final days.

- “Set it and Forget It” – applicants often report regretting last minute changes
- If you see “Active” or “Ranking” under status, you are not yet certified

### Get Prepared for Match Week

Confidence comes from being prepared!

- Attend the **Mandatory Match Workshop** on Mon Mar 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm ([Zoom Link](#))
- Review the Match Week Schedule [NRMP Main Residency Match Calendar](#)
- Discuss contingency plans with mentors
- Solidify your support system in advance

**Give OSA Feedback:** Help us strengthen advising for future classes, please complete the Annual Advising **Survey** (Available March 4)

## Save the Date: Match Day 2026

**Congratulations** to our early matches – AUA, Military, SF!

Save the date for the **2026 Match Day Celebration!** Join us for a festive reception celebrating Match Day on **Friday, March 20, 2026** from **10:30 am – 1:00 pm** at the **M&T Bank Exchange** at the France-Merrick Performing Arts Center (401 W. Fayette St). Pick up your tickets at OSA!

**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

### NRMP

- [Registration](#)
- [Match Timeline](#)
- [Match Process](#)
- [Ranking Programs](#)

### Key Dates

- Feb 2 AUA Match Results  
[Match Week/SOAP calendar](#)
- Feb 2 Ranking Opens
- Mar 4 ROL Certification deadline
- Mar 9 SOM Match Wk Workshop
- Mar 20 Match Day!

  
**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
CERTIFY**

## After the Match

Transitioning from medical student to resident is both exciting and busy. Below are some key tips to make this transition successful for you! Read more in the [RAM – After the Match](#).

**Celebrate your success** Take time to celebrate with loved ones, reflect on your journey, and share your Match news with mentors and supporters—they'll be thrilled to hear from you.

Inevitably, Match Day is bound to generate some big emotions – if you want a safe space to talk/debrief – please reach out to an OSA Dean – we are here for you!

### Complete medical school requirements

- Confirm you have met Graduation Requirements
- Complete Financial Aid Exit Interview
- Submit the AAMC Graduation Questionnaire
- Join the UMSOM Alumni Network (via Career Tab in MedScope)
- Update your contact information (email/phone) in SURFS

**Residency Onboarding** Expect communication from your residency program soon after the Match. Onboarding requirements, typically includes the below. Note OSA can assist - can be found in the [RAM](#).

- Signing and returning your acceptance letter and contract
- Applying for a state medical license
- Completing program-specific pre-training requirements

**Attend to your Personal Wellbeing** Take this time to ensure readiness and success in residency.

- TTR is designed to build skills preparing you for residency day 1
- Plan your move, get to know your co-residents, explore your new city
- Learn more about financial wellness and create a residency budget
- Spend time with family and friends
- Arrange personal health appointments in your new location

## Graduation Requirements

At this point your schedule should be complete, ensuring all graduation requirements are met. **Degree Works** is a comprehensive, user-friendly dashboard to track your academic progress and plan remaining coursework.

**Note:** *The MedScope Graduation Tracker is not accurate or up to date.*

### Resources:

[Degree Works Dashboard](#)

[Class of 2026 graduation requirements](#)

## OSA Insider Podcasts

[Apple Podcasts](#)

E38: Making Hard Decisions

## How Can OSA Help You?

### Match/Graduation Events

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### VSLO/Aways

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### Registration & Degree Works

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### OSA Advisors/MSPE Questions

[OSA Deans](#)

Kerri Thom, MD

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