Interview Season- Expectations & Timeline

Best practices for medical students applying to Emergency Medicine

Application Submission → *Interview Offers* → *Interview Day* → *Rank List Submission*

Application Submission

- Interviews will start to be released in early October.
- The majority of invitations tend to be sent around **mid-October**. Some may come earlier, some may land at the end of the month. Some may continue into November.
- Some programs may release interviews on the *County Community of Practice Date* on Tuesday October 13th at 8 PM EST.

*If you have **substantial updates** (e.g. new SLOE, major publication, etc.) after the 3rd week of October, **you should contact programs**.*

*If you signaled a program, you do **NOT** need to send a letter of interest.*

*If you did not signal a program and haven't recieved an interview invite, **you can consider reaching out by the first week of November**.*

After Receiving an Interview Offer

- Respond **promptly** to invitations to secure preferred dates.
- Monitor your email closely (including spam) – invitations often come in waves.
- Use official platforms (e.g., ResidencyCAS, Thalamus) to manage interviews.
- Keep a personal, centralized tracking system for offers, dates, and waitlists.
- Programs may offer multiple formats (e.g. in person, virtual, or hybrid). They are providing flexibility, not evaluating you based on which option you choose. Make decisions based on program fit, finances, and logistics.
- **Applicants should aim for 12 interviews**[3] to maximize your chances of matching. However, this number may vary based on your personal situation, so discuss with your advisors.

Do NOT hold interview slots you do not plan to attend. *Cancel early to give other applicants an opportunity to schedule.*

Let programs know ASAP if you're unable to attend an interview.

*Ideally, cancel **at least 4 weeks** in advance for in-person interviews and **2 weeks** in advance for virtual interviews to allow programs to fill open interview spots.*

*Life happens! **If an emergency comes up, communicate with the program professionally.***

Cancelling interviews last minute or no-showing can reflect poorly on both you and your medical school.

Post-Interview Communication

- Thank you notes are **not necessary.**
- Follow specific instructions from each program on post-interview communication.

Don't expect to hear from programs after your interview.

*If you choose to send a letter of intent (to rank a program #1), **DO NOT send to more than one program***

Application and Interview Resources

1. EMRA/CORD Student Advising Guide:
https://www.emra.org/msadvisingguide

2. CORD Medical Student and Advisor Resources:
https://www.cordem.org/resource/medical-student-and-advisor-resources/

3. NRMP Charting Outcomes
https://www.nrmp.org/match-data/2024/08/charting-outcomes-characteristics-of-applicants-who-match-to-their-preferred-specialty-2/

4. SAEM Practice Interview Questions
https://www.saem.org/docs/default-source/saem-documents/students/residencyinterview2009saem.pdf?sfvrsn=5279b84b_0