

AASPD Considers ERAS

Annual Meeting of the Society of
Academic Anesthesiology
Association (SAAA)

Boston Park Plaza Hotel
Boston, MA

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November 6, 2009



Tomorrow's Doctors, Tomorrow's Cures

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Association of
American Medical Colleges

Talking Points

- What is ERAS?
- Why Consider ERAS: The ERAS Advantage
- The ERAS Application
- Available Application Timelines for using ERAS
- Tools to Streamline the Application Process
- ERAS Reengineering
- Next Steps
- Questions

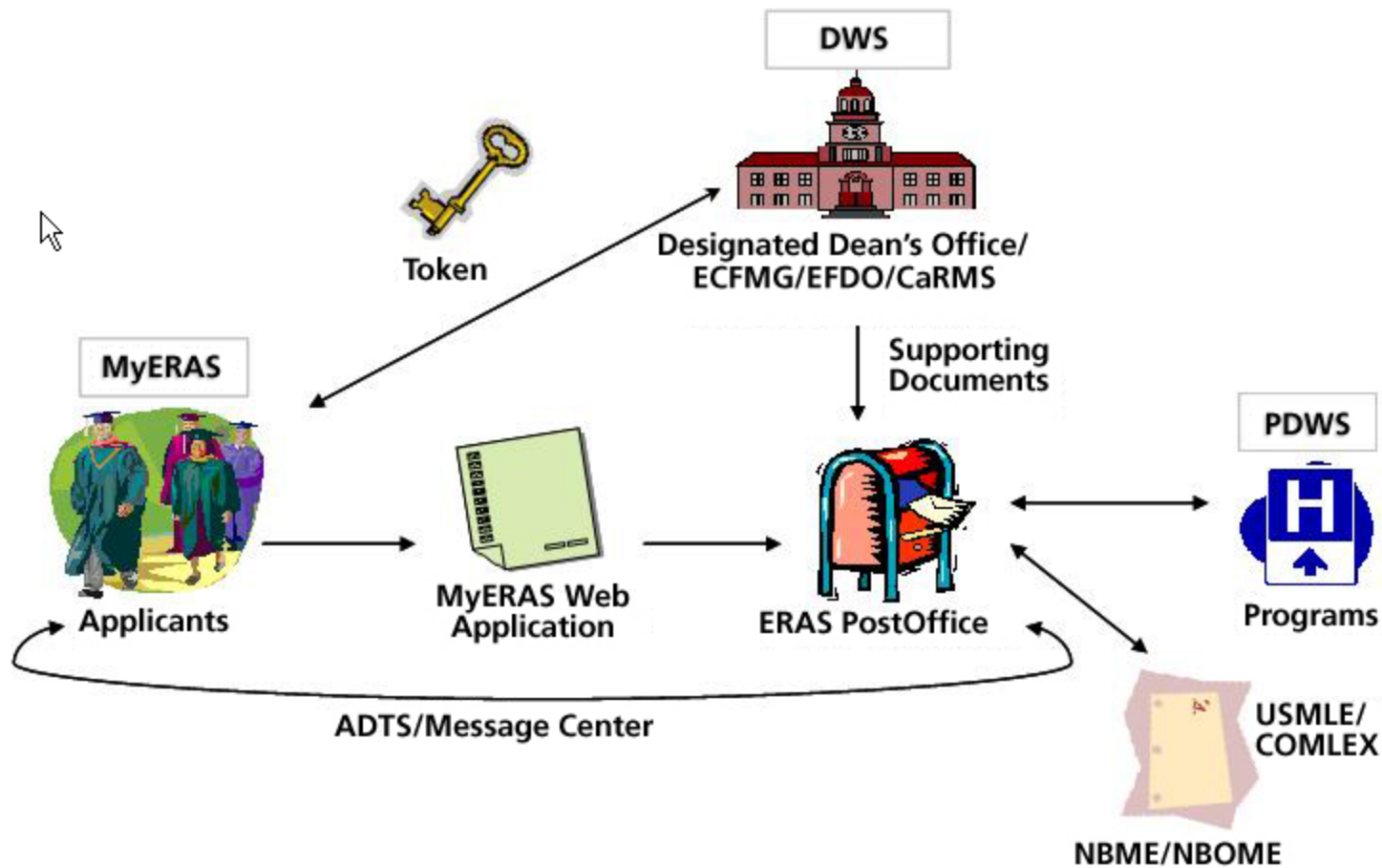
What is ERAS?

- An electronic service that allows applicants and designated dean's offices to send application materials to programs using the Internet.
- ERAS is a service of the Association of American Medical Colleges and separate from the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP).

ERAS by the Numbers

- ERAS is used by 41 residency specialties including virtually all core specialties
- ERAS Fellowships hosts 34 fellowship sub-specialties
- 2 new fellowships are joining ERAS 2011
- Almost 6,000 programs use ERAS annually.

Overview of Current ERAS System



Benefits for Applicants

- Only 1 application to complete
- Only 1 set of documents to request
- Reduced certified mail expenses
- Common starting point for applications
- Tool to track status of application materials
- Ease of locating, researching, and applying to accredited Anesthesia fellowship programs
- Eliminates old technology

ERAS Fees

1-10 applications

\$100

11-20

\$10/each

21-30

\$15/each

31+

\$25/each

Board Scores Transcripts \$60 (unlimited)

$\$100 + \$60 = \$160$ for first 10 applications

$\$100 + \$100 + \$60 = \260 for first 20 applications

Advantages to AASPD Programs

- Electronic process streamlines recruitment
 - Reduces processing time
- Applications are more timely, consistent and easier to manage and review
- Expansion of applicant pool – from regional to national
- Tools to hone in on applicants with characteristics important to your program
- ERAS data is exportable to legacy systems
- Opportunity to begin collecting national applicant behavior data

Possible Disadvantages to AASPD Programs

- National pool of applicants may mean more applications.
 - More applicants may require additional staff resources to review applications and conduct interviews
- May need to consider a unified offer date or match to standardize offers for all applicants and programs

Standard ERAS Documents

- MyERAS Application Form
- Personal Goals Statement
- Medical School Transcript
- MSPE/Dean's Letter
- Letters of Recommendation (4 Maximum)
- Photograph (optional)
- COMLEX/USMLE Transcript
- ECFMG Certification (IMGs only)

Non-ERAS Documents

- Use *Local Documents* tool in the PDWS to attach non-ERAS documents to an applicant's file:
 - Publications
 - Medical School Diploma
 - E-mails received from applicant
 - Etc.

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Fellowship Application Timelines

July Application Cycle

- 12 month cycle
- Fall Match Or Uniform Offer Date
- Fellows begin training the upcoming July

December Application Cycle

- 18 month cycle
- Spring Match or Uniform Offer Date
- Fellows begin training July, a year following match.

July Application Timeline

Date	Activity
Mar - Apr 30, 2010	ERAS Registration for upcoming ERAS season (ERAS 2011)
Mar - June	Update brochures and Web sites indicating ERAS participation
July 1	MyERAS Web site opens to applicants to begin working on their applications. Applicants may begin applying to programs.
July 15	Programs may begin contacting the ERAS PostOffice to download application files.
Summer, Early Fall	Applications are reviewed; Interviews are conducted
Fall	Match occurs, if applicable.
May 31, 2011	ERAS PostOffice closes for the season.
July 1, 2011	Fellows report for training

December Application Timeline

Date	Activity
Mar - Apr 30, 2010	ERAS Registration for upcoming ERAS season (ERAS 2011)
Mar - June	Update brochures and Web sites indicating ERAS participation
July 1	MyERAS Web site opens to applicants to begin working on their applications.
November 15 December 1	Applicants may begin applying to programs. Programs may begin contacting the ERAS PostOffice to download application files.
Summer, Early Fall	Applications are reviewed; Interviews are conducted
Spring 2011	Match occurs, if applicable.
May 31, 2011	ERAS PostOffice closes for the season.
July 1, 2012	Fellows report for training

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The Program Director's Workstation



Making it work for your program!

Tools to Streamline the Process

The PDWS provides many features to help training programs manage the selection process:

- Screening Applications
- Evaluating/Scoring Documents
- Communicating with Applicants
- Managing the Interview Process
- Using Composite Score and Ranking

Screening Tools

Program staff may use the PDWS to:

- Screen sensitive information using ERAS Data Filters;
- Create user accounts for staff accessing application materials;
- Run Filter/Sorts to identify specific groups of applicants:
 - Incomplete Applications
 - Program Screening Criteria (i.e., Board scores, medical school, research, etc.)

Evaluating Tools

Program staff may use the PDWS to:

- Develop standard formula for scoring applicants (Composite Score);
- Review and score ERAS documents;
- Identify top performing applicants using the composite score tool (to invite for interview and/or rank).

Tools for Communicating with Applicants

Program staff may use the PDWS to:

- Use contact information provided by applicants (phone, cell, beeper, etc.);
- Create mailing address labels to contact applicants via snail mail;
- Use the PDWS e-mail module to contact applicants;
- Use the Correspondence Tab to enter and track e-mails and other communications (phone, fax) with applicants.

Tools to Manage Interview Process

Program staff may use the PDWS to:

- E-mail applicants the interview schedule;
- Use Interview Manager to schedule or waitlist applicants for an interview;
- Prepare for interview by viewing documents on-line, e-mailing or printing documents;
- Enter comments pertaining to applicants' interviews electronically.

Tools to Score/Rank Applicants

Program staff may use the PDWS to:

- Identify the top performing candidates using the Composite Score formula;
- Negotiate ranking positions for top choices using the Rank Applicants feature;
- Create a data file that can be imported into the ranking system (NRMP).

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Why Reengineer ERAS?

- System components are 15 years old.
- Although system is stable, the technology that supports it is outdated.
- Time to stop patching and build anew.
- Hospitals utilizing newer technology are reluctant to open up firewalls for ERAS downloads.
- **Users want the flexibility to work on applications when they're not at their desk.**

Tentative Reengineering Timeline

Time Frame	Activities
October 2009	Complete business analysis for entire ERAS system.
November 2009	Begin Requirements gathering phase and development
Jan - Dec 2010	ERAS IAC and focus groups review and provide feedback as software components are completed
Jan 2011 - TBD	Documentation and Training Curricula are finalized
Spring 2011 - TBD	Broad user exposure to the new applications via training/webcasts
July 2011 - TBD	New System Launch in Pilot Institutions
July 2012 - TBD	New System Launch Everywhere

Weigh the Pros and Cons

Pros

- Reap ERAS benefits now!
 - ✓ Applicants get streamlined process
 - ✓ Program Staff streamline their processes
 - ✓ Begin monitoring national applicant behavior stats now.
 - ✓ Easy transition to reengineered system

Cons

- Will need to learn two new systems instead of one.

However ...

- ✓ Usability is a high priority for ERAS applications. System will be intuitive and easy to use.

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Should AASPD Programs Use ERAS?

- Yes
- No



When Should AASPD Join ERAS?

- Pre-Reengineering
- Post-Reengineering

Should AASPD Programs Use ERAS?

- Yes
- No



When Should AASPD Join ERAS?

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- Post-Reengineering

Next Steps for ERAS 2011 Participation

- By November 15, 2009: Poll colleagues for 85% participation rate. Formalize decision in writing to ERAS
- January 2010: ERAS Newsletter will be distributed to membership
- March 2010: ERAS 2011 Registration Opens

Contact us!

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ERAS® ... Working Together to Streamline the
Application Process

Questions?



We Welcome the Opportunity To Serve You

The AASPD
and



ERAS—Working together



Tomorrow's Doctors, Tomorrow's Cures



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