



## Breast Imaging Fellowship Match Program FAQ

### **Q. Will there be a universal application?**

**A.** SBI is unable to use the ERAS system, but the Match Committee recently created a universal application for voluntary use by fellowship programs. The [Universal Application](#) can also be found on the SBI website.

### **Q. Is there a timeline for interviews?**

**A.** Yes. The interview period for the 2025 Fellowship Match for 2026 appointments begins on January 13, 2025 and ends on March 31, 2025. Programs are responsible for arranging their own interview schedules within this time period.

### **Q. What is the All-In Policy, and does the Match implement it?**

**A.** Yes. The NRMP All-In Policy states that programs in each subspecialty must register and attempt to fill all positions in the Match. All fellowship positions with 6 months or more of breast imaging instruction must be entered into the Match by the participating institution.

### **Q. Are internal candidates still required to participate in the Match?**

**A.** Yes. If a program in the Match would like to retain an internal candidate, the open position still must be included in the Rank Order List. The program and the candidate would rank each other first for internal placement. Per the All-In Policy, any program in the Match must enter all of their positions into the Match.

### **Q. What is the policy on disclosing ranking preferences?**

**A.** A program cannot require an applicant to disclose his/her/their rank order, and an applicant cannot require a program to disclose theirs. Programs may tell an applicant that they will rank him/her/them to match, but cannot ask the applicant if he/she/they will rank them first. Applicants may tell the program director they are ranking their institution first, but cannot ask the program director if they are the first choice.

### **Q. What is a quota change?**

**A.** Your program's quota is how many positions you would like to fill in the Match. This number is pre-filled into the system each year. If you want to change this number, you will need to

submit a quota change with the NRMP. There is a deadline to make any changes to the quota, join, or withdraw from the Match.

**Q. Does the ACGME DIO control my Match program?**

**A.** The Designated Institutional Official has oversight of your program's Match participation. The DIO is responsible for activating the institution and the program in the Match, approving any program changes, and billing at the conclusion of the Match.

**Q. Will our fellowship program automatically become an ACGME-accredited program?**

**A.** No. Breast imaging fellowships can participate in the National Resident Matching Program because your institution's residency program is ACGME-accredited. A fellowship program must be affiliated with an ACGME residency program, but this will not automatically make the fellowship program ACGME-accredited.

**Q. Under what circumstances would the NRMP allow a waiver?**

**A.** Waivers are given under limited circumstances for applicants due to hardship, change in specialty (must be submitted by December 15 of the Match year), or postponement of the completion of residency. Waivers may be granted to programs for loss of funding, loss of accreditation, or hardship. **All waivers must be requested from and granted by the NRMP.**

**Q. Problems in the past have included non-compliance by issuing early offers. How will this be prevented?**

**A.** Compliance is based on the honor system and personal integrity. When the program director signs the Match Agreement, the expectation is that each program will abide by the rules of the Match. The purpose of the Match is to even the playing field for our residents.

**Q. How will SBI handle programs that violate the no early offers commitment?**

**A.** Programs not participating in the Match will not be included in the [SBI Fellowship Directory](#) nor listed on the [Match webpage](#). These are very useful tools for SBI members-in-training applying to fellowship. Issues of non-compliance with programs participating in the Match will be handled on a case-by-case basis.