

# The Medical U

## ABOUT THE MATCH/NO MORE SCRAMBLE By: Edward Junkins, MD

The National Resident Matching Program (NRMP) is an impartial venue established in 1952 to optimize the rank-ordered choices of applicants and program directors. The first Match was conducted in 1952 when 10,400 internship positions were available for 6,000 U.S. graduating seniors. The number of PGY-1 positions offered gradually increased through 1994 and then began to decline slowly until 1998. In 2012, a record-high 22,934 PGY-1 positions were offered. However, the trend in the total number of applicants since 1952 is more dramatic, starting with 6,000 in 1952 and rising to an all-time high of 38,377 this year.

The vast majority of residencies filled their positions through the Match in 2012; the fill rate of over 95 percent makes last year the most successful in the past 30 years. A by-product of a high fill rate is fewer positions available in the post-Match "SOAP" This year, only 1,246 first-year and second-year positions were unfilled. Of the U.S. seniors who matched, 81.6 percent matched to one of their top three choices. In the meantime, 56 percent of seniors matched to their first-choice program (up from 52% last year). For more information about the NRMP, please visit: [www.nrmp.org/](http://www.nrmp.org/). Additional data and reports for the Main Residency Match and the Specialties Matching Service can be found at: [www.nrmp.org/data/](http://www.nrmp.org/data/).



Beginning with this 2012 Match the much-maligned "Scramble" has ceased to exist. For those who recall, this dreadful event was the mechanism by which un-matched applicants secured unfilled residency positions. In its place is the "SOAP" or Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program. Some view this as a re-match; un-matched applicants are allowed to apply to an additional 30 programs, while unfilled programs are given 24 hours to review applications, interview candidates and rank them. A computer-driven second Match follows. Gone are the days when applicants and their advocates, such as Associate Deans, are allowed to make calls to program directors. The only contact that is permissible will be initiated by the programs themselves. Clearly, this format places student applicants at a great disadvantage.

More than ever it is a time for students to distinguish themselves from their peers from other institutions. This imperative requires a great deal of planning, advocacy and information-management. The process can no longer wait for the end of the third-year in medical school, rather, it must begin as early as possible when the student is making time-management decisions and meeting potential faculty advocates. The strategy is simple: get organized to be recognized.

The Office of Student Affairs is happy to assist any student in beginning the process (email [Rholinda.lange@hsc.utah.edu](mailto:Rholinda.lange@hsc.utah.edu) or [William.shiflett@hsc.utah.edu](mailto:William.shiflett@hsc.utah.edu)).



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## Specialty Trends

- Dermatology, orthopaedic surgery, otolaryngology, plastic surgery, radiation oncology, thoracic surgery and vascular surgery were the most competitive fields for applicants.
- Emergency medicine programs offered 61 new positions and filled all 1, 688 positions

(Information from NRMP Match press release)

# Introducing the Visiting Student Application Service (VSAS)

By Sam Francis, Adam Bracken and Dusty Nash

Many fourth-year medical students choose to do an away rotation; this helps students gain experience with different patient populations or different areas. They also help students assess whether a program is a good fit, network for interviews and some residencies require students to have completed away rotations. However, applying for and securing a position for an away rotation can be confusing at best. Fortunately, the AAMC has designed the Visiting Student Application Service (VSAS) to streamline the application process for away rotations. VSAS enables students to go through one central application process to allow students to apply for rotations in their field of interest at participating schools. Currently, over 100 institutions participate in VSAS. This makes the process of applying for positions and managing decisions about away rotations much easier than before.

Some things you should know about using VSAS here at the University of Utah School of Medicine:

- You must be granted authorization from your school to use VSAS. You'll be given access to VSAS during January of your third year.
- The University of Utah allows you to apply to up to ten electives
- You can only use 12 weeks of away electives to count towards your credit for graduation. Most senior electives are four weeks, some are two weeks and others depend on the institution.
- VSAS fees are based on the number of institutions you apply to, not the number of electives applied for. The cost is \$35 for the first institution and \$15 for each additional institution.
- Institutions dictate their own application deadlines. Typically, schools post course catalogs in February or March and begin accepting applications in April or May of your third year.
- Many programs have first-come, first-served priority, so it is important to submit the VSAS application as early as possible

While VSAS provides tremendous benefits, some programs (e.g., Stanford) do not use VSAS, and, thus, require a separate application process. Also, even when applying through VSAS, it is still beneficial to contact each institution directly, unless they explicitly discourage it. This creates a personal connection, which may improve your odds of getting into competitive rotations. There are some great resources (listed below) available to help in this decision and the VSAS application process.

- Carol Stevens, Director of Student Affairs – assists with all fourth-year scheduling including questions about VSAS and away rotations.
- William Shiflett, Project Coordinator for Visiting Student Program – processes all the VSAS applications for students coming to the University of Utah.
- Dr. Jay Agarwal – as a third-party, non-academic advisor, is a great resource on deciding if an away rotation may help your application.
- Mentors – During your third year, you will select a mentor in a field of your interest
- Others – Student Interest Groups, Senior Match Panels, etc.
- VSAS Homepage – <https://services.aamc.org/20/vsas/>
- AAMC OSR Representatives—Kristen Steenerson (MSIV), Adrienne Carey (MSIII), Sam Francis (MSII), Max Padilla (MSII), Adam Bracken (MSI) and Dusty Nash (MSI)

With this information, planning an away rotation is easier than ever before.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW STUDENT BODY OFFICERS!

Student Body Presidents: Jordan Barker, Adrienne Carey, Mike Morgan      Student Body Secretary: Amanda Berbert  
 MSIV Class Presidents: Austin Trinh, Tony Trinh  
 MSIII Class Presidents: Jamie Prevedel, Brandon Wilkinson  
 MSII Class Presidents: Daryl McLaren, Kyle Kimbal



Andy Jones with members of the Department of Pediatrics at the capitol preparing to lobby for the Utah Indoor Clear Air Act.

### White Coats on Capitol Hill

*By Andrew Jones*

I was a little nervous as I walked up the marble staircase to the Senate Room to talk with the Senators. It didn't help to have all the men in dark suits staring at us as we passed by them. However, I soon realized how much impact a white coat can actually have. "Hi, I'm Student Doctor Jones and I am here with other pediatricians to represent the Utah Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics in urging you to support HB245 – the update of the Utah Indoor Clean Air Act..."

Many people, not just our patients, look to us as experts in our field. As future doctors, we will get to use that distinctive quality throughout our careers to make an impact on the health of our community. Our understanding of the body, disease, and sound scientific data allows us to impact policy that benefits our patients.

I was able to work closely with Dr. Kevin Nelson, MD, PhD, of Pediatricians Against Secondhand Smoke (PASS) and the AAP to advocate on Capitol Hill at this last legislative session. It was a great opportunity to discuss health issues that we know are important to our patients with Senators and House Representatives, who can make a huge difference. I was exposed to the "strategy" of politics and learned how to be an effective advocate. I also emailed many of our state legislators about important issues ranging from funding vaccines to Health Care Reform. I not only learned who my area representatives were, but met with them and emailed them often to urge them to vote for good health practices.

## Pictures from MATCH 2012



Top: MSIV pick up their "Match" letters on Match Day (March 16)

Right: After announcing their match, MSIV indicate the location (28 different states) of their residency programs. Thirty (30) MSIV will be staying in Utah for part or all of their residency training.



## Where are they going? Class of 2012 Match Results

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Ravinder Ahluwalia, *Internal Medicine*  
-University of Utah, UT

Nathon Allred, *Anesthesiology*  
-U Texas HSC, TX

Colton Arrant, *Anesthesiology*  
-Tucson Hospitals Med Ed, AZ

Lee Audd, *Anesthesiology*  
-U Florida COM-Shands Hospital, FL

Robert Beck, *Surgery-Preliminary*  
-U Kentucky Medical Center, KY

Akash Bhatnagar, *Emergency Medicine*  
-Einstein/Beth Israel, NY

Ryan Brass, *Emergency Medicine*  
-U Connecticut Health Center, CT

Elisa Bushman, *Neurology*  
-U Alabama Med Center-Birmingham AL

Kimberly Butler, *Family Medicine*  
-Contra Costa Regional Medical Center, CA

Jeffrey Caldwell, *Emergency Medicine*  
-University of Arizona, AZ

Andrew Carpenter, *Internal Medicine*  
-University of Utah, UT

Carlos Casamaluapa, *Surgery-Preliminary*  
-University of Utah, UT

Justin Chandler, *Neurology*  
-University of Rochester/Strong Mem, NY

Kaerli Christensen, *Radiology-Diagnostic*  
-University of Utah, UT

Lynn Correll, *Pediatrics*  
-University of Rochester/Strong Mem, NY

Julia Curtis, *Dermatology*  
-Intermountain Medical Center, UT

Kevin Dahle, *Dermatology*  
-Intermountain Medical Center, UT

David DeMill, *Ophthalmology*  
-Intermountain Medical Center, UT

Benjamin Dowse, *Pediatrics*  
-University of Utah, UT

Grant Ellsworth, *Medicine-Pediatrics*  
-University of Utah, UT

Michael Enslow, *Radiology-Diagnostic*  
-Tucson Hospitals Med Ed, AZ

Marissa Fakaosita, *Pediatrics*  
-University of Arizona, AZ

Christina Feasel, *Pediatrics*  
-Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, NC

Marie Flores, *Family Medicine*  
-Einstein/Montefiore Medical Center, NC

Jonathan Frandsen, *Radiation-Oncology*  
-Spartanburg Reg Healthcare, SC

Matthew Goodfellow, *Emergency Medicine*  
-University at Buffalo SOM, NY

Trenton Hansen, *Family Medicine*  
-Ehring Bergquist Hospital

Bryndon Hatch, *PM&R*  
-University of Utah, UT

H. Joseph Hui, *Family Medicine*  
-Indiana Univ Health Ball Mem Hospital, IN

Richard Hymas, *Radiation-Oncology*  
-Beaumont Health System, MI

Matthew Iles-Shih, *Psychiatry*  
-University of Utah, UT

Benjamin Illum, *Anesthesiology*  
-Intermountain Medical Center, UT

Ryan Israelsen, *Medicine-Pediatrics*  
-UPMC Medical Education, PE

Divya Jayaraman, *Pediatrics*  
-UPMC Medical Education, PE

Cameron Jennings, *General Surgery*  
-U Nevada Affiliated Hospitals, NV

Vainuupo Jessop, *Anesthesiology*  
-University of Massachusetts, MA

Jenifer Jewell, *Anesthesiology*  
-University of Kentucky Medical Center, KY

Tyson Jones, *Pediatrics*  
-University of Utah, UT

Adam Jorgensen, *Ophthalmology*  
-University of Utah, UT

Cambria Judd, *Family Medicine*  
-Utah Health Care Institute, UT

Konrad Kennington, *Anesthesiology*  
-Providence Sacred Heart Med Center, WA

Casey Kiser, *Surgery-Preliminary*  
-Hershey Medical Center/Penn State, PN

Cory Kogelschatz, *Neurology*  
-University of Utah, UT

Uyen Lam, *Internal Medicine*  
-University of Utah, UT

James Lee, *Anesthesiology*  
-St Josephs Hospital, AZ

Grace Lin, *Pediatrics*  
-Children's Hospital of Michigan, MI

Ayumi Ludwig, *Neurology*  
-University of Oklahoma COM, OK

Paula Lueras, *Internal Medicine*  
-Cambridge Health Alliance, MA

Cody Martin, *Orthopaedic Surgery*  
-U Florida COM- Jacksonville

Alexandra Meier, *Internal Medicine*  
-Legacy Emmanuel/Good Samaritan, OR

Alison McInturff, *Pediatrics*  
-University of Utah, UT

Elise Mecham, *Plastic Surgery (Integrated)*  
-U Texas Med Branch-Galveston, TX

Neal Mehta, *Anesthesiology*  
-Loyola University Medical Center, IL

Erik Merkley, *Pediatrics*  
-Phoenix Children's Hospital, AZ

Lindsey Minshew, *Radiology-Diagnostic*  
-Mayo School of Grad Med, FL

Edward Moellmer, *Radiology-Diagnostic*  
-University of MO-KC Programs

Spencer Naser, *Family Medicine*  
-McKay-Dee Hospital Center, UT

Kenneth Naylor, *Anesthesiology*  
-University of Chicago Medical Center, IL

Shad Newson, *Family Medicine*  
-Utah Healthcare Institute

Jeffrey Norris, *Family Medicine*  
-University of New Mexico SOM, NM

Katharine Osborn, *Pediatrics*  
-UC San Francisco, CA

Janie Pak, *OB/GYN*  
-UC San Diego Medical Center, CA

Anthony Petersen, *Psychiatry*  
-University of Utah, UT

Rita Pingree, *Radiology-Diagnostic*  
-Case Western Reserve University

Katherine Poruk, *General Surgery*  
-Johns Hopkins Hospital, MD

Jesse Powell, *Internal Medicine*  
-Prov Portland Medical Center, OR

Sandhya Ravichandran, *Anesthesiology*  
-University Washington Affiliated Hospital

Tenley Rivera, *Psychiatry*  
-U Washington Affiliated Hospital

Joshua Rusk, *Family Medicine*  
-Ft Collins Family Medicine, CO

Maryam Safaee, *Internal Medicine*  
-Mt Siani Hospital, NY

Jaron Santelli, *Emergency Medicine*  
-U Texas Southwestern Med School, TX

Jonathan Schmidt, *Pediatrics*  
-University of Utah, UT

J Namealoha Sells, *Family Medicine*  
-Utah Valley Regional Medical Center, UT

Daniel Sharp, *Family Medicine*  
-McKay-Dee Hospital Center, UT

Teisha Shiozaki, *Surgery-Preliminary*  
-Virginia Mason Medical Center, WA

C. Todd Sower, *Pediatrics*  
-Cincinnati Children's Hospital MC, OH

Brian Stagg, *Ophthalmology*  
-University of Utah, UT

Kristen Steenerson, *Neurology*  
-Mayo School of Grad Med Ed, AZ

Jack Stringham, *Ophthalmology*  
-Providence Sacred Heart Med Center, WA

J. Ryan Taylor, *Orthopaedic Surgery*  
-UC Davis Medical Center, CA

Christopher Thacker, *Anesthesiology*  
-VA Medical Center Boise, ID

J. Anne Thomson, *OB/GYN*  
-SIU SOM & Affiliated Hospital, IL

Wiley Thuet, *Emergency Medicine*  
-Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, NC

Sienna Titen, *OB/GYN*  
-UC Davis Medical Center, CA

Dean Todd, *Pediatrics*  
-UC Irvine Medical center, CA

Giang Tran, *Pediatrics*  
-University of Arizona, AZ

Henry Tran, *Emergency Medicine*  
-University of Rochester/Strong Mem, NY

Casey Turner, *Emergency Medicine*  
-University of Utah, UT

Nephi Walton, *Pediatrics-Medical Genetics*  
-St Louis Children's Hospital, MO

Andrew Warren, *Radiology-Diagnostic*  
-Intermountain Medical Center, UT

Robert Joel Welch, *Ophthalmology*  
-St Mary's Medical Center, CA

Tyler Williams, *Emergency Medicine*  
-Texas A&M-Scott & White, TX

Sara Wilson, *Internal Medicine*  
-University of Utah, UT

Daniel Winchester, *Dermatology*  
-Intermountain Medical Center, UT

Breton Yates, *Dermatology*  
-Intermountain Medical Center, UT

### Some Matching Statistics for the Class of 2012:

- 35 Women and 62 Men among the 97 matching MSIV
- Matched in 60 Programs in 19 Different Specialties
- 37 entering into Primary Care Residencies—in Medicine, Pediatrics and Family Medicine