Opportunities for Osteopathic Medical Students

Complete training to become a physician includes supervised post-doctoral graduate medical education (GME) training in a specific field of medicine. Currently medical school graduates navigate two separate residency accrediting systems—while the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) accredits the majority of GME programs, the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) accredits all osteopathic (DO) GME programs.

All internship, residency and fellowship programs will be accredited by the ACGME by 2020.

The single GME accreditation system is an exciting change for all prospective medical students, physicians, and the public! This system will enhance the GME and clinical training experience as a whole, and in turn improve the health and well-being of the nation through better care.

See below for the 2015 Match Infographic

www.aacom.org | 5550 Friendship Boulevard, Suite 310 | Chevy Chase, MD 20815
© Copyright 2015 American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine. All Rights Reserved.
Students at osteopathic medical schools have multiple opportunities to "match" into graduate medical education (GME) residencies. The table below outlines the results of the main match (including results of all the matching opportunities referenced herein). The table shows the matching success rates for osteopathic medical students who sought residency placements through multiple matching programs.

**2015 Results**

All percentages reflect DO students placed in GME / Residencies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NRMP MATCH</td>
<td>45.95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AOA MATCH</td>
<td>41.01%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINAL OPPORTUNITY</td>
<td>7.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>99.41%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the 2015 overall matching process (including results of all the matching opportunities referenced herein), 99.41% of DO graduates seeking GME had attained a residency position.

**Match Timeline**

- **FALL**
  - Application/Participation Period
  - Announcement
  - Results/Acceptance

- **MID-MARCH**
  - Announcement
  - Results/Acceptance

- **EARLY APRIL**
  - Matching programs for DOs only

**About the Match Opportunities**

- **THE MILITARY MATCH**
  - This matching opportunity is for both allopathic and osteopathic medical students who have a military commitment; they may participate in the Military Match in the Fall with results known in December.

- **THE AOA MATCH**
  - This matching opportunity is for osteopathic medical students only, for placement in AOA-accredited GME, and takes place under the auspices of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA). Results are announced in February. This matching process is iterative and takes place over a series of months. Historically, 45–50% of osteopathic medical students seek GME through the AOA-NMS Match.

- **THE NRMP "MAIN MATCH"**
  - This one-week-only matching opportunity takes place in March and is for both osteopathic medical (DO) students as well as for allopathic medical (MD) students. It takes place under the auspices of the National Resident Matching Program (see background information below), and results are announced the third Friday in March.

- **ONE FINAL CHANCE TO MATCH**
  - Osteopathic graduates who have not matched/placed into GME through the military match, AOA-NMS Match, or NRMP Match still have the opportunity to apply and seek placement in one of the open AOA-accredited GME positions and in other placements (for example, the "San Francisco Match.")

**Background**

The National Resident Matching Program® (NRMP®) is a non-profit organization founded in 1952 by medical students seeking to standardize the residency selection process and establish a uniform date of appointment to positions in graduate medical education (GME) training programs. It is governed by a Board of Directors that includes representatives from national medical and medical education organizations as well as medical students, resident physicians, and GME program directors. The NRMP manages the Main Residency Match® and the Specialties Matching Service®, which includes Matches for more than 40 fellowship subspecialties.

"Placing" and "matching" into graduate medical education programs, or residencies, are not necessarily the same thing. Matching occurs through one of the formal match programs, but placement may occur in any number of additional ways outside of the standard match programs.

Learn more at [www.aacom.org](http://www.aacom.org)