

CAREER RESOURCE

Matching into psychiatry: the application timeline

An educational overview of the residency application year for psychiatry, from spring planning to Match Day. Dates shift each cycle, so confirm the current ERAS and NRMP calendars.

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Current as of July 7, 2026. Laws, payer rules, and billing codes change. Confirm the current requirements for your jurisdiction and setting before you rely on anything here.

Spring and summer before you apply

- Line up strong letters of recommendation, ideally including a psychiatry attending
- Draft your personal statement and finalize your CV
- Plan any away rotations, and confirm which programs you are targeting
- Register for ERAS and the NRMP Main Residency Match

Fall: applications and interviews

- ERAS applications are typically submitted in September
- Programs review applications and send interview invitations through the fall
- Interviews commonly run from October into January, most now virtual
- Complete the AAMC supplemental application items and any program signals if used

Winter into spring: ranking and Match

- Certify your rank order list in the NRMP by the February deadline
- Match week is in March: you learn whether you matched, then Match Day reveals where
- The Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program (SOAP) runs that week for unfilled positions

What programs weigh

Programs look at the whole application: clinical performance and evaluations, letters, your statement, USMLE or COMLEX results within current pass or fail context, research and service, and fit. Verify each program's current requirements directly.

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