

Frequently Asked Questions:

The NRMP Match for Molecular Genetic Pathology Fellowship

The selection process for prospective fellows in Molecular Genetic Pathology switched to the NRMP Pathology Fellowship Match for positions in 2026. Other Pathology subspecialties participating in the NRMP Match include Hematopathology, Forensic Pathology, Bone and Soft Tissue Pathology. Other subspecialties in Pathology are considering the Match.

1. Now that we have agreed to participate in the Match, what happens next?

Below is an approximate timeline of events:

- a. Fall 2025: applicants are encouraged to submit applications to their programs of your choice before January 1, 2026.
- b. You can begin interviewing applicants starting January 1, 2026.
- c. February 4, 2026 at noon, ET: Pathology Fellowship Match opens for registration: this is when your program signs a legally binding [Match Participation Agreement](#) with the NRMP, and also when applicants can begin registering for the Match.
- d. March 11, 2026 at noon, ET: Ranking opens.
- e. April 1, 2026 at 11:59 PM, ET: Quota Change Deadline (Quota is the number of positions your program intends to fill in the Match. Programs must withdraw by the deadline or make any change to their number of positions in the Match).
- f. April 15, 2026 at noon, ET: Rank Order List Certification Deadline (for you and for applicants). Rank lists cannot be edited after this.
- g. April 29, 2026 at noon, ET: Match day!
- h. July 2027: your new fellow(s) start

2. Do we use ERAS to receive applications for fellowship?

No, ERAS is not used for applications. For Molecular Genetic Pathology Fellowship positions, only the selection process (the Match) is being handled by a central entity (the NRMP). Each program will continue to have their own application requirements, including their application forms and required letters of reference. Many programs utilize the CAP standard fellowship application: [Standardized Application for Pathology Fellowships](#)

3. When can our program make an account with the NRMP and register for the Match?

You can make an account starting February 5th 2025 at noon, ET, which is when your program signs a legally binding Match Participation Agreement with the NRMP.

4. How does our program make an account with the NRMP and register for the Match?
 - a. Follow this checklist, which includes a link to a video on “Institution and Program Match Process” and other resources: https://www.nrmp.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/SMS-Program-Checklist.pdf?utm_source=search_results_page&utm_campaign=nrmp_search_page&utm_term=program%20checklist
 - b. Any new programs that would like to join the Match can register directly with NRMP using the [New Program Form – NRMP Forms](#). This will ultimately require coordinating your institutional official (IO).
 - c. Instructions for activating a program can be found at can be found at: https://www.nrmp.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Activating-Programs_SMS_MRM_PD_IA.pdf
 - d. Instructions for creating a record with the R3 system can be found at: https://www.nrmp.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Adding_Program-PD.pdf
 - e. Changes in program directorship or other changes can also be made with the R3 system.

5. Will applicants be able to apply to non-Match programs?

Applicants can still apply to and interview at non-Match programs. However, they must decide whether or not to accept a position at a non-Match program before certification within the Match (before April 15, 2026). The Match is a binding commitment. If an applicant accepts a position at a non-Match program and does not withdraw from the NRMP Match, they will have committed a Match violation that may be disclosed to the medical school, current program director, designated institutional official, and other relevant parties.

6. May I ask applicants to disclose their interest in our program in terms of ranking preference?

Programs must not request the applicants’ ranking preference or intentions. However, applicants may voluntarily disclose their ranking preference or interest to you during the application process. Likewise, you may voluntarily

disclose your ranking preference or interest to applicants, but applicants are not permitted to request your ranking preference from you.

7. What if an applicant who matched at our program does not want to, or cannot enroll?

All programs and applicants must respect the binding nature of a match commitment and be prepared to honor the commitment if a match occurs with any program placed on a rank order list. If an applicant cannot or will not honor the commitment, a waiver or deferral must be requested from the NRMP (see link below). Waivers are granted only in cases of ineligibility, change of specialty, or unanticipated, serious, and extreme hardship.

8. Do we have to include all of our fellowship positions in the Match?

Yes. In order to have sufficient participant for a robust Match and to honor the “all-in” policy after the first Match, participating molecular genetic pathology fellowship programs must include all of their fellowship positions in the Match.

9. What happens if our program commits a Match violation?

Match violations are investigated by the NRMP and serious consequences can occur. These consequences can include the violations being reported to relevant entities and being barred from future Matches. See also the NRMP Violations policy section 6b below: <https://www.nrmp.org/policy/violations-policy/>

10. Where can I find more information on the Match Code of Conduct?

- a. https://www.nrmp.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/NRMP-Match-Codes-of-Conduct_Applicants.pdf
- b. https://www.nrmp.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/NRMP-Match-Code-of-Conduct_Programs.pdf

11. What should I do if I feel a Match Code of Conduct violation has occurred?

See the below website for reporting information:

<https://www.nrmp.org/policy/reporting-and-investigation-of-violations/>

12. How does the Match work?

https://youtu.be/cnVe_NYIVAE or scan this:

You can also view how the algorithm works at:

<https://www.nrmp.org/intro-to-thematch/how-matching-algorithm-works/>

13. What if our fellowship program does not fill all positions?

After Match Day, all programs in the Match with unfilled positions receive a list of applicants who did not Match. Applicants also receive a list of programs that did not fill. At this point, applicants can reach out directly to those programs to apply for and interview at these unfilled positions outside of the NRMP Match.

14. What are the benefits of using the NRMP Match?

The NRMP Match ensures professional standards in conduct are used in the selection of fellows. The Match will help make the Molecular Genetic Pathology Fellowship selection process more equitable and timely.

15. Where can I find a list of molecular genetic pathology fellowships participating in the match?

- a. <https://www.amp.org/education/career-development/molecular-genetic-pathology-mgp-fellowship-training-programs/>
- b. AMP will be able to link from this webpage to your personal fellowship website.
- c. AMP will promote this webpage through their social media.

16. How much does it cost for programs to register with the NRMP Match?

- a. The Institution registration fee will be \$300 per Match. Because the Institution fee is per Match, if your institution already has a program participating in the Match, there will be no additional institution registration fee for your participation.
- b. The Program registration fee will be \$100 per program track.
- c. There will be a \$75 fee per applicant matched to the program. For more information: <https://www.nrmp.org/intro-to-the-match/match-fees/>

17. Where can I find more information on the Match for Molecular Genetic Pathology?

- a. <https://www.amp.org/education/career-development/molecular-geneticpathology-mgp-fellowship-training-programs/>
- b. <https://www.nrmp.org/fellowship-applicants/>
- c. Email AMPEducation@amp.org

18. What do I tell an applicant who applies for a 2027-2028 position in my program?

- a. There is an FAQ document written for specifically for applicants on the AMP website. There are also resources available on NRMP website (see answer to question 17).
- b. Here is a possible response: “We are excited to participate in the Molecular Genetic Pathology Fellowship NRMP Match for the 2027-2028 appointment year. A list of all the programs participating in the Match can be found on the [AMP website](#). An FAQ document on the match process written for applicants is also available on that website. Please send us your application materials including {insert program specific information here}. We will be in touch to schedule interviews, which will take place starting January 2026. You will need to register for the Pathology Fellowship Match in February 2026 with the NRMP (<https://www.nrmp.org/fellowship-applicants/>) and can rank programs participating in the match with which you have interviewed.”

19. What do I do if I have questions that are specific to my molecular genetic pathology fellowship program?

- a. You can reach out directly to the NRMP for more information.
- b. Email: support@nrmp.org Toll Free: (866)653-NRMP Phone: (202)400-2233