

Hello again COMSEP members! We're back with another installment of the Career Advising Corner. You are likely well into the advising year for your pediatric students. We are including two items in this edition of the Career Advising Corner:

1. A list of important dates in the 2021-22 application cycle for the M4 students. This was included in a recent Weekly Buzz but we have added it here for those who may have missed it.
2. A description of component of the ERAS application that are driven by the student and those that are driven by the school.

Hopefully this information will be helpful to you in answering questions for your students!

Date	What does this mean for my M4 students?
June 9 <sup>th</sup> : ERAS tokens were released	Students were emailed their <b>ERAS token</b> from their school's designated Dean's Office. Students register with ERAS using this token to create their MyERAS Application. Students can then begin working on their ERAS application and can generate a unique <b>Letter Request Form (LRF)</b> for requesting letters of recommendation. While students are eager to start their ERAS application, it never hurts to remind them that they have until September to complete the application. This is a good time to prompt students to request their Department Chair letter.
July-August	This was a good time for students to be working on drafts of their <b>personal statements and CVs</b> . Once the drafts are in good shape, students can add this information to their ERAS application. This work can progress <i>through</i> September. Students should also be requesting the <b>recommendation letters</b> if they have not yet done so.
September 1 <sup>st</sup> : Applicants can start sending applications to residency programs	Applicants may begin submitting applications to individual programs BUT programs <i>cannot</i> view these applications until 9/29/2021. There is no advantage to submitting an application early other than the satisfaction of having it done! Residency programs will not know whether an

	<p>applicant submitted their information on 9/1/21 or 9/29/21. So, no rush to get everything done by 9/1/21. Better to take the time to get it right rather than rush to send out a less than perfect application on 9/1/21.</p>
September 15 <sup>th</sup> : NRMP Registration opens	<p><b>NRMP registration opens.</b> Note that ERAS (Electronic Residency Application Service) and NRMP (National Residency Match Program) are two separate systems and students need to register with <i>both</i>. ERAS is the service used to apply to programs. NRMP is the service used to rank programs. Pro tip for students: once they have registered with the NRMP, they should go into ERAS and enter their NRMP ID number. There is a wide window for registering with the NRMP: 9/15/21-1/31/22. After January 31, 2022, student must pay a \$50 late fee to register with the NRMP.</p>
September 29 <sup>th</sup> : MSPE released <i>and</i> Programs may begin reviewing applications	<p>Two important things happen at the same time:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MSPE is released</li> <li>2. Programs may begin reviewing applications</li> </ol> <p>Just like the 2020-21 application cycle, the MSPE will be released to programs at the same time as the student's ERAS application (this a change from past practices). Students should be very strongly encouraged to have their application completed with 3 LORS by 9/29/21. Students should send their applications to all programs by 9/29/21. Students might not have all their LORs uploaded by this date, but they should <i>not</i> delay sending their applications out to programs. Letters of recommendation uploaded after the 9/29/21 can be assigned to programs once they are uploaded.</p>
After 9/29/21	<p><b>Interview offers begin!</b> Students should consider their interview plans when arranging their M4 schedule and should carefully review their progress in meeting degree requirements with any changes made to their M4 schedule. Please consider sharing these interview resources with your students:</p>

	<a href="#">AMA 4 tips on video interviews</a> <a href="#">Career Advising Collaborative Top Ten Tips for Crushing the Virtual Interview</a>
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Here is a summary of the components of the ERAS Application driven by students:

**1. Personal Information**

- a. This is biographical information about the applicant, including contact information
- b. This can be updated throughout the ERAS application cycle

**2. Personal statement(s)**

- a. Students upload their personal statement to ERAS
- b. Students may upload more than one statement
- c. Personal statement(s) *cannot* be changed once the ERAS application is certified
- d. Students assign one statement to each residency program
  - i. Pro tip: students must label statements carefully if they are going to use more than one. Clear labelling of statements will make it easier to upload the correct statement to the correct residency program.

**3. CV**

- a. The ERAS application has a very specific format for entering CV information
- b. Students should review the “print view” of their ERAS CV as this is the format commonly used by intern selection committee members for reviewing applicant information
- c. Personal statement(s) *cannot* be changed once the ERAS application is certified

**4. Photograph**

- a. This should be a recent and well-lit head & shoulders shot showing the student in professional dress
- b. Students assign the photo to each residency program

**5. USMLE transcripts**

- a. Students must authorize the release of their USMLE transcript to be uploaded to their ERAS application
- b. Students assign the USMLE transcript to each residency program

**6. Letters of recommendation**

- a. Students request letters of recommendation (LOR) from faculty
- b. Letter writers (or their designee) upload the LOR to the student’s ERAS application
- c. Student assign LORs to each program (note that students cannot read the LORs)
- d. Once a letter is assigned to a program and the student’s application is sent to the program, there is no way to “pull back” the letter and replace with a different one

- e. Students may add LORs to programs after their initial application is sent if they have not used all the LOR slots for that program. Most residency programs will require 3 LORs but may accept up to 4 LORs.

**Here is a summary of the components of the ERAS Application driven by medical school:**

- 1. MSPE (or Dean's Letter)**
- 2. Medical School transcript**

These documents are uploaded to the student's ERAS application by their school's designated Dean's Office. These documents are automatically assigned to residency programs, there is no action required on the part of the student for this. Click [here](#) to go to the AAMC ERAS information site.