

AAPL EXAMINER



American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law

Forensic Psychiatry Fellowships Transition to ERAS and The Match for 2025

Application Season

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Forensic psychiatry fellowship program directors of the Association of Directors of Forensic Psychiatry Fellowships (ADFPF) have chosen to use the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS) in the 2025 forensic psychiatry fellow selection process for the 2026-2027 Academic Year. The key dates for the 2026-2027 Academic Year application process are:

- July 2, 2025 – Applicants may apply to forensic psychiatry fellowships via ERAS.
- July 16, 2025 – Forensic psychiatry fellowship programs begin to review applications on the ERAS platform.
- July 16, 2025 and after – Forensic psychiatry fellowship programs interview applicants via Thalamus (or other optional platforms).

Forensic psychiatry fellowship program directors have also chosen to use the National Residency Match Program (NRMP aka “The Match”) in the 2025 forensic psychiatry fellow selection process for the 2026-2027 Academic Year. The key dates (tentative) for the 2026-2027 Academic Year Match are:

- August 6, 2025 – Match Registration opens.
- September 3, 2025 – Ranking opens.
- September 17, 2025 – Quota Change and Withdrawal deadline.
- October 8, 2025 – Rank Order List Certification deadline.
- October 22, 2025 – Match Day. Unfilled/Unmatched Lists available.

Forensic psychiatry fellowship program directors have agreed that forensic psychiatry fellowships may not make fellowship offers to applicants outside of The Match, unless the program is attempting to fill an unfilled position after Match Day. This is consistent with the All-In Policy of The Match that the ADFPF has adopted.

The 2025 transition to ERAS and the NRMP Match is the culmination of several years of discussion among program directors. We have gradually been moving toward this result in prior years, by adoption of the Common Application, using standardized dates for conducting fellow interviews and making fellowship offers, and adhering to agreed upon communication guidelines in discussions with applicants. Transitioning now to ERAS and The Match will further streamline the application process, standardize procedures for offering and conducting interviews, increase equity in the application and selection processes, and hopefully provide an optimal experience for fellowship applicants.

Please look to the AAPL website for updates on this transition, and links to ERAS and The Match.

Finally, please note that the common application and interview cycle for the 2025-2026 Academic Year has concluded, but some programs still have positions available for the fellowship year that begins July 1, 2025. Applicants should contact the programs directly to inquire about applying.