Is Completing a Residency Really Worth Dealing with the Application Process?

Marcie Lepkowsky, PharmD
Director, PGY1 Acute Care Pharmacy Residency Program
So, Is Completing a Residency Really Worth Dealing with the Application Process?

YES!

UC San Diego
SKAGGS SCHOOL OF PHARMACY AND PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES
MATCH
The Match

- Sponsored and supervised by ASHP
- Administered on behalf of ASHP by National Matching Services Inc.
- Fees: $125 to register for the Match (non-refundable)
- [http://www.natmatch.com/ashprmp](http://www.natmatch.com/ashprmp)
- Couples: each applicant registers for the Match as an individual, but ID’s as couple when submitting Rank Order List
Important Dates

- November, 2013
  - able to register for the Match
  - Use online registration portal shared by the NMS and PhORCAS (new)
  - https://portal.phorcas.org/
  - List of participating programs available on NAS website
Welcome!

This website provides applicants to pharmacy residency programs with a single access point for two separate but complementary services, which are operated by separate entities:

- The Match – ASHP Resident Matching Program, administered by National Matching Services Inc.
- PhORCAS – Pharmacy Online Residency Centralized Application Service

All applicants must register for the Match on this website in order to obtain a position at a PGY1 or PGY2 pharmacy residency program that is accredited by or is in candidate, pre-candidate, or conditional accreditation with the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP).

Many, but not all, residency programs use PhORCAS. Applicants applying to program(s) that participate in PhORCAS must use this website to submit applications to those programs. Applicants can enter data into their applications through PhORCAS prior to registering for the Match, but applications cannot be sent to programs that participate in PhORCAS until the applicant has registered for the Match.

Applicants applying to any program that does not participate in PhORCAS must submit the application directly to that program. Applicants will still need to register for the Match on this website in order to obtain a position at the program through the Match.

*Note:

Programs that are based outside of the United States or that offer positions exclusively to commissioned officers of the Department of Defense or the Public Health Service are exempt from the ASHP Match and do not participate in PhORCAS. Applicants seeking positions only at those programs do not need to register for the Match; these applicants should not use this website and should send applications directly to those programs.

Current PGY1 residents who are interested in continuing their training in a PGY2 residency offered by the same sponsor as the applicant’s PGY1 residency (e.g., the same or an affiliated organization) may be able to obtain the position through an Early Commitment Process. Applicants who are committed to a position in this manner do not need to register for or participate in the Match.
Important Dates

- **January 10, 2014**: Recommended date by which applicants should register for the Match.
- **February 7, 2014**: By this date instructions for submitting Rank Order Lists and obtaining Match results will be available.
- **February 17, 2014**: Start to submit Rank Order List.
- **March 6, 2014**: Final date to register for the Match.
- **March 7, 2014**: Final date for submission of Applicant and Program Rank Order Lists.
- **March 21, 2014**: Results of the Match are released.
Match Mentions

- Don’t play mind games with yourself
- The Match favors the applicant
- Rank only where you are willing to go
- Do not rank anywhere you are not willing to go
- Check out the Matching Algorithm
- https://www.natmatch.com/ashprmp/aboutalg.html
Match Stats

4928 Enrolled in Match (4508)
3933 Participated in Match (3706)
2495 Matched (2268)
1438 Did not Match (1438)
2694 Positions offered in Match (2413)
199 Positions unfilled; 17 did not rank any applicants (145; 23)
Rank Stats

- 1: 1495 (60%) [1332 (58.7%)]
- 2: 530 (21%) [532 (23.5%)]
- 3: 261 (10.5%) [221 (9.7%)]
- 4: 122 (5%) [112 (5%)]
- 5 or >=: 87 (3.5%) [71 (3%)]

[Image]
What if I don’t match?

- March 21, 2014
  - 9:00 AM PT: list of unfilled programs posted on Match web site
  - No action to fill positions is to be taken prior to 9:00 AM
  - Applicants may start to use PhORCAS to prepare applications
When can I apply again?

- Applicants who do not obtain a position in the Match will be able to use PhORCAS to prepare applications beginning on March 21, and to submit applications to programs participating in PhORCAS beginning on March 24.

- Programs should not make offers before March 31, 2014.

- *Scramble*
Scramble Offers

- Programs not to make offers before March 31, 2014
PhORCAS
PhORCAS

- Pharmacy Online Residency Centralized Application Service
- Fees: $75/first 4; $25 each thereafter
- https://portal.phorcas.org/
Chaos or Control?
Confusion or Improved Communication?
Three Portals

- Applicant
- Program
- References
Login

Welcome!

This website provides applicants to pharmacy residency programs with a single access point for two separate but complementary services, which are operated by separate entities:

- The Match – ASHP Resident Matching Program, administered by National Matching Services Inc.
- PHORCAS – Pharmacy Online Residency Centralized Application Service

All applicants must register for the Match on this website in order to obtain a position at a PGY1 or PGY2 pharmacy residency program that is accredited by or is in candidate, pre-candidate, or conditional accreditation with the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP).*

Many, but not all, residency programs use PHORCAS. Applicants applying to programs that participate in PHORCAS must use this website to submit applications to those programs. Applicants can enter data into their applications through PHORCAS prior to registering for the Match, but applications cannot be sent to programs that participate in PHORCAS until the applicant has registered for the Match.

Applicants applying to any program that does not participate in PHORCAS must submit the application directly to that program. Applicants will still need to register for the Match on this website in order to obtain a position at the program through the Match.

*Note:

Programs that are based outside of the United States or that offer positions exclusively to commissioned officers of the Department of Defense or the Public Health Service are exempt from the ASHP Match and do not participate in PHORCAS. Applicants seeking positions at these programs do not need to register for the Match, these applicants should not use this website and should send applications directly to those programs.

Current PGY1 residents who are interested in continuing their training in a PGY2 residency offered by the same sponsor as the applicants’ PGY1 residency (e.g., the same or an affiliated organization) may be able to obtain the position through an Early Commitment Process. Applicants who are committed to a position in this manner do not need to register for or participate in the Match.
Application > Extracurricular

The response you type will appear in your application exactly as you type it. Using all capital letters or not capitalizing properly does not present a professional image to your application.

Select an option from the drop down list and click on "Add New Entry" to create a list of your activities, accomplishments & recognitions. If you are unsure of the procedures or completing this section of the PhORCAS Application please revisit the instructions or click on "Instructions For This Section". Once your application has been e-Submitted you WILL NOT be able to make corrections to this section.

[ ] I am leaving this section blank intentionally

Provide information about activities, accomplishments & recognitions, including:

- Professional Awards/Scholarships
- Leadership Experience
- Presentations (local/state/national)
- Publications (local/state/national)
- Pharmacy Work Experience
- Volunteer/Community Service

[ADD NEW ENTRY]
Hey, isn’t this already in my CV?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Search &gt; Applicants</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Last Name:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>First Name:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Visa Type:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Citizenship Status:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Veteran:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non Pharmacy Degree:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pharmacy Degree:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pharmacy College Attended:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pharmacy College GPA:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>US Pharmacy License:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PGY1 Site:</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Extracurricular Activities:**
- Professional Awards/Scholarships
- Leadership Experience
- Presentations (local/national)
- Publications (local/national)
- Pharmacy Work Experience
- Volunteer/Community Service
- No Additional Extracurricular Activities

**Reference Recommendation:**

**Selection Decision:**

**Tag 1**
Extracurricular Activities

- Did I lead, follow or just show up?
- What did I learn from this experience?
- Consider key words found in program description
- Opportunity to expand on CV and Letter of Intent
Personal Statement/letter of Intent

Provide a concise statement indicating your career goals, major areas of interest, and reasons why you are a good candidate for this program.

Please check the program's website for other institution specific details.

The accepted file formats are MSWord (.doc), Rich Text Format (.rtf), Portable Document Format (.pdf), and ASCII Text file (.txt). Do not password protect your files. The size limit for the file upload is 5MB.

Macintosh Users: Please be sure that the appropriate extension (e.g., .doc , .pdf) is at the end of the file name you select.

If you are having problems uploading your cover letters / personal statements, please make sure you are using one of the following browsers:

- Firefox
- Internet Explorer 8 (or higher)

Select File

To return to the applicant list please click the tab located at the top of the page labeled applicant check list.
Some standardization...
Please add the length and location of each Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) in your curriculum vitae for PGY1 applicants.

The accepted file formats are MSWord (.doc), Rich Text Format (.rtf), Portable Document Format (.pdf), and ASCII Text file (.txt). Do not password protect your files. The size limit for the file uploaded is 5MB.

Macintosh Users. Please be sure that the appropriate extension (e.g., '.doc', '.pdf') is at the end of the file name you select.

If you are having problems uploading your Curriculum Vitae/Resume, please make sure you are using one of the following browsers:

• Firefox
• Internet Explorer 6 (or higher)

To return to the applicant check list please click the tab located at the top of the page labeled applicant check list.
CV “Musts”

- Aesthetically pleasing
- Ordered in order of importance
- Include NMS Match #
- Reviewed by at least 2 people (in addition to your mom!)
CV “No’s”

- No spelling/grammatical errors
- No fluff but be complete
- No lying
- “Know” your CV
References

As of 9/12/13 (most likely change to 11/18/13)

- November 19th: references may be uploaded
- How many references – 3 or 4?
- Different references for different programs?
- Standardized forms +/- separate letter?
- 3 references required to submit application
Add Reference

Application > References

- Required Information

VIEW LIST

Please provide the requested information for an individual who will be providing a letter of recommendation. Please note that entering a reference in this section and clicking "SAVE" will immediately generate an e-mail request to that individual. Thus, before entering an individual’s name and contact information in this section, be sure that this person has agreed to write a letter of recommendation for you.

Title: UC San Diego - PGY1 Acute Care

You must include the name of the program in the Evaluation Title of the reference. This will notify the reference writer which program the letter will be sent to. E.g. Providence Alaska Medical Center-PGY2 Oncology

Notes to Reference:

Please complete standard form and attach separate letter as we discussed; thank you!

Deadline: 1/3/14

Please include the deadline date for the program, as well as any supplemental data the program may require from the reference writer.

This will notify reference writers if they need to upload any supplemental requirements with their reference.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I hereby give PHORCAS permission to contact the reference below via email notification. If my reference does not submit online reference form to PHORCAS in response to the email request, it is my sole responsibility to contact the reference directly to ensure all references required by my designated Residency Program are received by the deadline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I hereby give permission to the residency program to which I am applying to contact the Reference either to verify the information I provided and/or for further clarification of the information I provided, if necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I waive my right of access to this reference.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference’s Title (Dr., Mr., Ms., etc.):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference’s First Name:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference’s Last Name:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference’s Middle Name or Initial:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference’s Email Address:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirm Email Address:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference’s Phone Number:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Add Additional References/
Add Additional Request for each Reference
Multiple references/multiple sites
Electronic Signature Creates Legal Document

### Application Certification

I certify that all of the information submitted by me in this application is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

- I understand that any significant misstatement in, or omission from, this application may be cause for denial of selection as a resident or dismissal from a residency position.

- I authorize the residency site to consult with persons and institutions with which I have been associated who may have information bearing on my professional competence, character, and ethical qualifications now or in the future.

- I release from liability all residency staff for acts performed in good faith and without malice in connection with evaluating my application and my credentials and qualifications. I also release from liability all individuals and organizations who provide information to the residency site in good faith and without malice concerning my professional competence, ethics, character, and other qualifications now or in the future.

- I further understand that it is my responsibility to inform the residency sites to which I have applied of a change in my status with my academic program, (e.g., being placed on probation, being dismissed, etc.) occurs subsequent to the submission of my application. In addition, I understand I have the same responsibility to inform the residency site to which I match if a change in status occurs after the match has occurred.

- I expressly agree to comply fully with the PHORCAS policies.

- I understand and agree that, as an applicant for the pharmacy residency program, I have the burden of producing adequate information for proper evaluation of my professional competence, character, ethics, and other qualifications and for resolving any doubts about such qualifications.

- I hereby agree that personally identifiable information about me, including but not limited to my academic and professional qualifications, performance, and character, in whatever form maintained, may be provided to any residency training site to which I have applied and/or will match.

### Electronic Signature

- **Signature:**
  - Marnie Harvey

- **Signature Date:** MM/DD/YYYY
Supplemental

Confirm Supplemental Requirements just prior to finalizing application
Possible Supplemental Requirements

- Application forms
- Additional demographic Information
- Photos
- Interview availability
- Additional reference information
Residency Program Designations

PhORCAS
Pharmacy Online Residency Centralized Application Service

National Matching Services Inc.

Application > Program Designations

Pending Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residency ID</th>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Deadline (11:59PM EST)</th>
<th>Edit / Delete</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1175</td>
<td>CEDARS-SINAI MEDICAL CENTER</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>01/04/2013</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[Click here to attach required documents]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1809</td>
<td>Univ of Kentucky Healthcare</td>
<td>KY</td>
<td>12/31/2012</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To return to the applicant check list please click the tab located at the top of the page labeled applicant check list.
PhORCAS

?’s

What’s in YOUR Phorecast?
How Many Programs is Enough?

- Too many: 1,000,000,000,000,000
  - Time away from rotations
  - Cost to apply and travel to interview
  - Time commitment for reference writers
- Too few: 0
- Your thoughts…
Choosing Where to Apply

- Good fit
  - Number of residents
  - PGY2 opportunities
  - Patient care/Teaching/Research
  - Electives available
- Preceptors
- Flexible
- Staffing
- Location → Explore the possibilities
Take Home Points

- Be Organized
- No spelling/grammatical errors - anywhere
- Communicate well with references
- Know your deadlines
- Don’t miss your deadlines
- Apply to “good fit” programs
Possible changes for 2014

- Improved ease of uploading
- Improved process for reference writers
- Pre-pharmacy school transcripts not required to apply
Wishful thinking

- Consolidation of sections
- Consolidation of reference letters and comment sections
- Standard order of components
- No cost for scramble
- Scramble improvements
Thank You
Marcie Lepkowsky, PharmD
marciel@ucsd.edu