

ERAS®

Working Together to Streamline the Application Process

We are continuing our efforts to streamline the application process by providing the following upgrades to features and initiatives of our service in 2008:

Improved Application Information & Management Tools

Program Enhancements

- An expanded selection of publication types to view and run filter/sorts:
 - Peer-reviewed Article/Abstract
 - Peer-reviewed Book Chapters
 - Presentations/Posters
 - Other Articles (letters to the editor, poetry, short stories, etc.)
- Filter on newly available publication statuses, including:
 - Submitted: manuscript submitted to journal for consideration
 - Provisional Acceptance: offer to publish if certain conditions apply
 - Accepted: manuscript accepted and scheduled for publication
 - In-Press: editing/preparation for publication
 - Published: presented in journal or magazine
- The e-mail message character limit has been increased to 10,000 characters to allow for more detailed e-mail messages through the PDWS; sending e-mails through the PDWS ensures messages reach applicants in the Message Center, and that each e-mail is automatically tracked and recorded in the Correspondence section.
- Programs may select *Most Recent Training or Medical School of Graduation* to display on the Summary Sheet.
- If submitted, applicant photographs will be viewable at any time, unless specifically screened through the ERAS data filter. (Check with your legal counsel to determine the appropriate time during the application process to view the photographs, and set up ERAS filters accordingly.)
- Applicants can indicate what name they prefer to be called using the new *Preferred Name* field.
- Ability to export ERAS data records into a Microsoft® Office Access Database format (mdb) giving users expanded data analysis capability.

PDWS Web Module

- The PD WebRevue module is a specialized version of the PDWS that enables program staff to review assigned application materials via the Internet.
- We're launching the PD WebRevue module to a select group of programs as part of our rollout process.
- Beta testing conducted during ERAS 2007 went extremely well, paving the way for the next phase.
- The PD WebRevue pilot release is planned for ERAS 2008 for two specialties only: Internal Medicine and Pediatrics.

Expanded Data Resources & Analysis

- Our partnership with the AAMC Center for Workforce Studies continues as ERAS determines how best to use ERAS data to speak to national workforce issues.
- Partnership with AAMC's Careers in Medicine results in developing an online survey for programs to aid medical students in understanding program directors' perspectives on the residency selection process.

Integrity Promotion Program

The ERAS Integrity Promotion Program addresses fraudulent application activity in two ways: educate and investigate.

- ERAS is committed to continuing our education campaign to applicants, schools, and programs about the ERAS Integrity Promotion Program, particularly behavior that warrants investigation.
- ERAS will expand information regarding plagiarism, fraudulent documents, and other unethical behavior in manuals and on the Web.
- Suspected unethical application behavior will be investigated and reported to erasinvestigations@aamc.org.

Stay in Touch

Even with all these enhancements, we know there's still more to be done! Working together, we can continue to streamline the application process and make ERAS better every year. E-mail your questions about the service to erashelp@aamc.org. If you have suggestions, e-mail them to erasideas@aamc.org. Visit our Web site, www.aamc.org/eras, for the latest in what's happening with ERAS.