Welcome to the ERAS 2020 recruitment season!

Throughout the recruitment season we will continue to share important information but to get started, below is a summary of what is new this season as well as enhancements to the Program Director’s Workstation (PDWS).

The PDWS Update Release Notes section of the PDWS community site provides an archive of all enhancements that have been made to the PDWS as well.

If you have any questions regarding the updates and enhancements, please contact our ERAS HelpDesk at 202-828-0413 or (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. ET).

Sincerely,

Amy
Amy Mathis
Senior Director, ERAS

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Policy

PDWS Terms and Conditions – When you sign into the PDWS for the first time this season, you will be prompted to review and to agree to the updated terms and conditions. The Terms and Conditions have been streamlined to provide clarity on roles, responsibilities, and more comprehensive guidelines on security and use of ERAS data available in the PDWS.

Postgraduate Training Authorization Letter (PTAL) – Effective January 1, 2020, the Postgraduate Training Authorization Letter (PTAL) will no longer be a requirement for international medical graduates entering training in California programs. Instead, all incoming trainees will apply for a Postgraduate Training License once they have secured a position in a program.

To learn more about the changes, please visit the Medical Board of California Factsheet. If you have any questions about the new licensing requirements, please contact the Medical Board of California directly at webmaster@mbc.ca.gov or (916) 263-2382.

School Name Changes

(PDWS filters that include the previous school name will automatically be updated to the new school name)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Previous School Name</th>
<th>New School Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mayo Clinic School of Medicine</td>
<td>Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stony Brook University School of Medicine</td>
<td>Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Texas School of Medicine at San Antonio</td>
<td>The University of Texas Health Center at San Antonio Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long SOM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Previous School Name</th>
<th>New School Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.T. Still University - Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine</td>
<td>A.T. Still University of Health Sciences Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.T. Still University - School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona</td>
<td>A.T. Still University of Health Sciences School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine</td>
<td>Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine at New Mexico State City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Filter and Review

Work Authorization – To help programs better understand their legal obligations, the citizenship and visa section in the application has been updated to capture work authorization information. Applicants will continue to be prompted to provide work authorization information including the basis of their work authorization under the entirety of their GME training.
**PDWS filters that included citizenship and visa previously will not automatically be updated in the new PDWS.** We have created a Work Authorization job aid in our [Job Aids section of the Community Site](#) to assist with configuring PDWS filters.

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**USMLE Alert Change** – As a reminder, the USMLE Alert/Indicator draws attention to important information within the applicant’s Documents, Exam/License, and Scores. To further streamline your review of application materials, NBME has reduced the number of criteria that will trigger the USMLE indicator in the PDWS. Updated criteria are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>To find more information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Important information from the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB)</td>
<td>Contact the FSMB, review the FSMB report or review ECFMG Status report in the applicants document panel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Important information in the USMLE Irregular Behavior Letter</td>
<td>Contact USMLE secretariat, or review USMLE Irregular Behavior Letter in the applicants document panel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Scheduler

Waitlist Automation – For the new season ERAS is introducing a new feature called Waitlist Automation. This feature will allow users to opt-in to having applicants automatically pushed from the top of the waitlist into an open scheduled slot, provided that the event’s freeze date has not passed. Program users will have the ability create a message to all applicants who are automatically scheduled.

Scheduler Responses Exportable to CSV – The Scheduler Responses view will now also have the ability to export the data into a CSV file.
New SVI Registration workflow – ERAS is providing a more streamlined SVI participation workflow. Programs participating in the emergency medicine SVI pilot will be able to agree to the terms and conditions for SVI within ERAS Account Maintenance (EAM) when registering their program’s ERAS participation status.
Community Site Reminder – Access learning resources, announcements, upcoming events, and updates to training content through the Community Site. As a reminder, use the Community Site to collaborate, discuss, and share best practices with other PDWS users. For any technical issues you are encountering, please contact the ERAS HelpDesk for prompt attention and effective troubleshooting.