



Electronic Residency  
Application Service®

# 2020 ERAS

## Letter of Recommendation Portal (LoRP) USER GUIDE



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## About the Letter of Recommendation Portal (LoRP)

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The Letter of Recommendation Portal (LoRP) enables LoR Authors and/or their designees to upload letters of recommendation (LoRs) to ERAS for distribution to training programs, at the request of applicants.

In the MyERAS application, applicants generate a Letter Request Form (LRF) for each LoR they are requesting and they provide the relevant author with the form. Authors and/or their designees use the unique Letter ID on each LRF to upload LoRs for applicants. A designee may not be a member of the hospital in an advising role or medical school staff supporting throughout the application process.

Applicants must indicate whether they waive their right to view the LoR for each LoR entry created. Applicants who waive their right to view a LoR are not permitted to view or obtain the LoR under any circumstances. All LoR must be uploaded through the LoRP and all LoRP users must accept the Terms and Conditions.

When a LoR is uploaded, it cannot be deleted or altered. To modify a LoR, a new version must be uploaded. Programs will only be able to view the most recent version of the LoR but LoRP users will see each version they have uploaded. All LoRs will have a watermark that includes the name of the person uploading the LoR, the source of the upload and the date. Applicants will receive an email notification that alerts them when a LoR has been uploaded.

## LoR Requirements

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In order to upload an LoR to the LoRP, it must meet the following requirements:

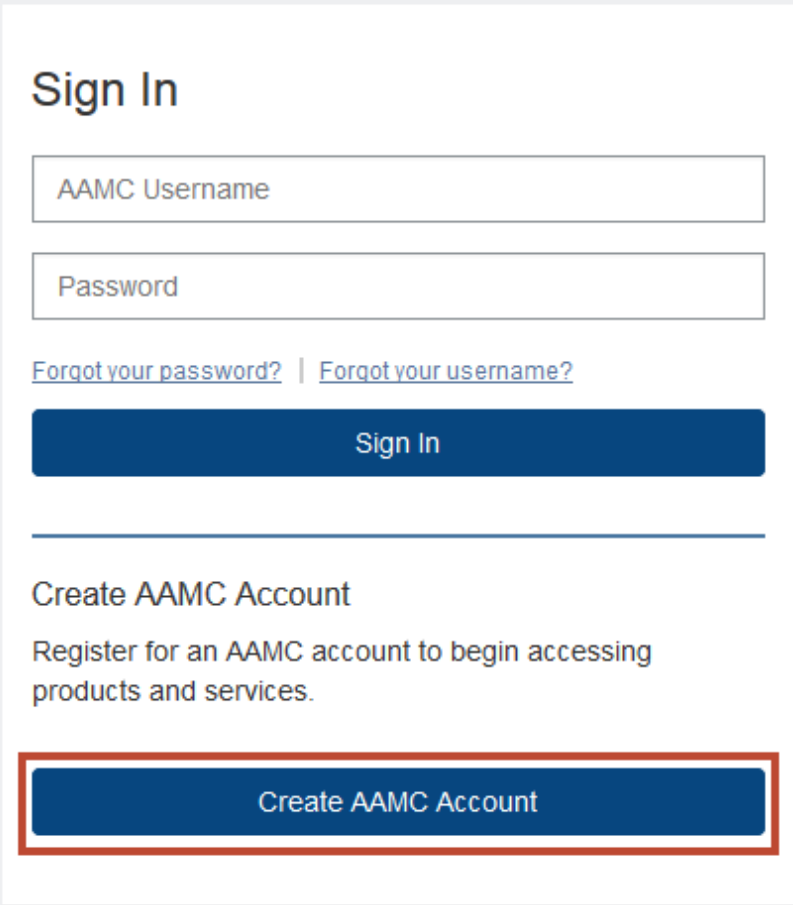
- File must be in a PDF format.
- File size cannot exceed 1 MB.
- File cannot be encrypted or password protected.
- Page dimensions cannot exceed 8.5 x 11 inches.
- File name cannot contain the following special characters: | \* ? \ : < >
- It is recommended that all LoR(s) be carefully reviewed, written and submitted on professional letterhead.
- LoR(s) should be signed by the LoR Author and include a date.

## Creating an AAMC Account

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To access the Letter of Recommendation Portal (LoRP), you will need an AAMC account. If you already have an account, you may use your existing user name and password to access the LoRP.

1. Please visit <https://services.aamc.org/eras/lorportal> and click *Create AAMC Account*.



The screenshot shows a web interface for signing in or creating an account. At the top, the heading "Sign In" is displayed. Below it are two input fields: "AAMC Username" and "Password". Underneath these fields are two links: "Forgot your password?" and "Forgot your username?". A dark blue button labeled "Sign In" is positioned below the links. A horizontal line separates the sign-in section from the "Create AAMC Account" section. The "Create AAMC Account" section includes the text "Register for an AAMC account to begin accessing products and services." and a dark blue button labeled "Create AAMC Account" which is highlighted with a red border.

2. Input your *Personal Information* and then click *Continue*.

**Create Account**

1 2 3

**1** Personal Information  
Please complete the fields below.

**Email**

Enter Email

**Confirm Email**

Enter Email Confirmation

**First Name**

Enter First Name

**Middle (optional)**

Enter Middle Name

**Last Name**

Enter Last Name

**Generational Suffix (optional)**

Select Suffix

**Sex**

Select Sex

**Continue**

[Cancel](#)

3. Select the option that best describes you. Then, click *Next*. Based on your selection, you may be prompted to answer some additional questions.

**Create Account**

1 2 3

2 Initial Questions  
Begin by providing some information below

**Which best describes you?**

- Pre-Med or Undergrad
- Medical School Student, Resident or Fellow
- Staff or Faculty at a Medical School or Teaching Hospital
- Other

**Next**

[Cancel](#)

4. Create your account by completing all the fields and clicking the checkbox to confirm that you have reviewed and agree to the AAMC's *Privacy Statement* and the *Terms and Conditions*. Then, click *Submit*.

## Create Account

1 2 3

3 **Account Information**  
Please complete the fields below.

**Username**

**Password**  
  
The password should contain at least 1 uppercase letter, 1 lowercase letter, 1 number and 1 special character. The following special characters are allowed: ~ ! @ # \$ % ^ & \* ( ) - \_ = + [ ] { } \ | ; : ' " , . < > ?

**Confirm Password**

**Security Question #1**

**Answer**

**Security Question #2**

**Answer**

**Security Question #3**

**Answer**

I have reviewed and agree to the [privacy statement](#) and the [terms and conditions](#).

[Cancel](#)



5. You will receive a confirmation email to verify your account. Click the link provided in the email to complete your AAMC account registration.
6. Using the user name and password you created, sign in to the Letter of Recommendation Portal (LoRP).



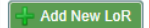
**Note:** If you are a designee uploading LoRs on behalf of multiple letter authors, you do not need to create multiple accounts. The LoRP enables you to organize the LoRs you upload by the author.



## Uploading a Letter of Recommendation (LoR)

### To upload a LoR:

1. Identify the *ERAS Letter ID* on the Letter Request Form (LRF) you received from the applicant. Then, click *+ Add New LoR*.

### Letters of Recommendation (LoR) Manager



								Season: 2020	
LoR Author	Applicant Name	Applicant Type	Specialty Assignment	AAMC ID	Letter ID	Last Upload Date	Upload LoR	View LoR	Imported LoR
Testing	Example Applicant	R	Specialty Example	21061128	8HSQ95CEA	2019-06-03 11:23:13.0			

2. Enter the *ERAS Letter ID* exactly as it appears on the Letter Request Form (LRF) and click *Continue*.

**Add LoR**

**Enter ERAS Letter ID**

- Enter the ERAS Letter ID exactly as it appears on the Letter Request Form given to you by the applicant
- Click *Continue*

ERAS Letter ID:

- After verifying the ERAS Application Season, Applicant and LoR Author Details, mark the checkbox at the bottom of the screen and click *Upload*.

Click *Back*, if the ERAS Application Season, Applicant and/or LoR Author Details are incorrect. Please notify the applicant so they can make corrections and provide you with a new Letter Request Form (LRF) to upload your letter.

**Add LoR**

**Step 2 of 4 - Verify ERAS Application Season, Applicant & LoR Details**

Please verify that the information below is correct by marking the verification box below.

**NOTE:** If any information is inaccurate, click *Cancel* and contact the applicant directly so they can make the corrections in MyERAS. Do not upload your letter until the applicant makes the corrections in MyERAS and provides you with a new LoR Request Form and Letter ID.

If you are ready to upload your letter, click *Upload*.

**ERAS Application Season: 2020**

**Applicant Details**

Name	Example Applicant
Preferred Name	
AAMC ID	21061128
Preferred Phone Number	1234567890
Preferred Email	Example@aamc.org
I waive my right to view this letter	No

**LoR Author Details**

ERAS Letter ID	8HSQ95CEA
Name	Testing
Specialty to which this letter will be assigned	

I have verified the information above and it is correct

**Back** **Upload**

- Upload the LoR by selecting *Browse* to locate it. Then, click *Continue*.

**Add LoR**

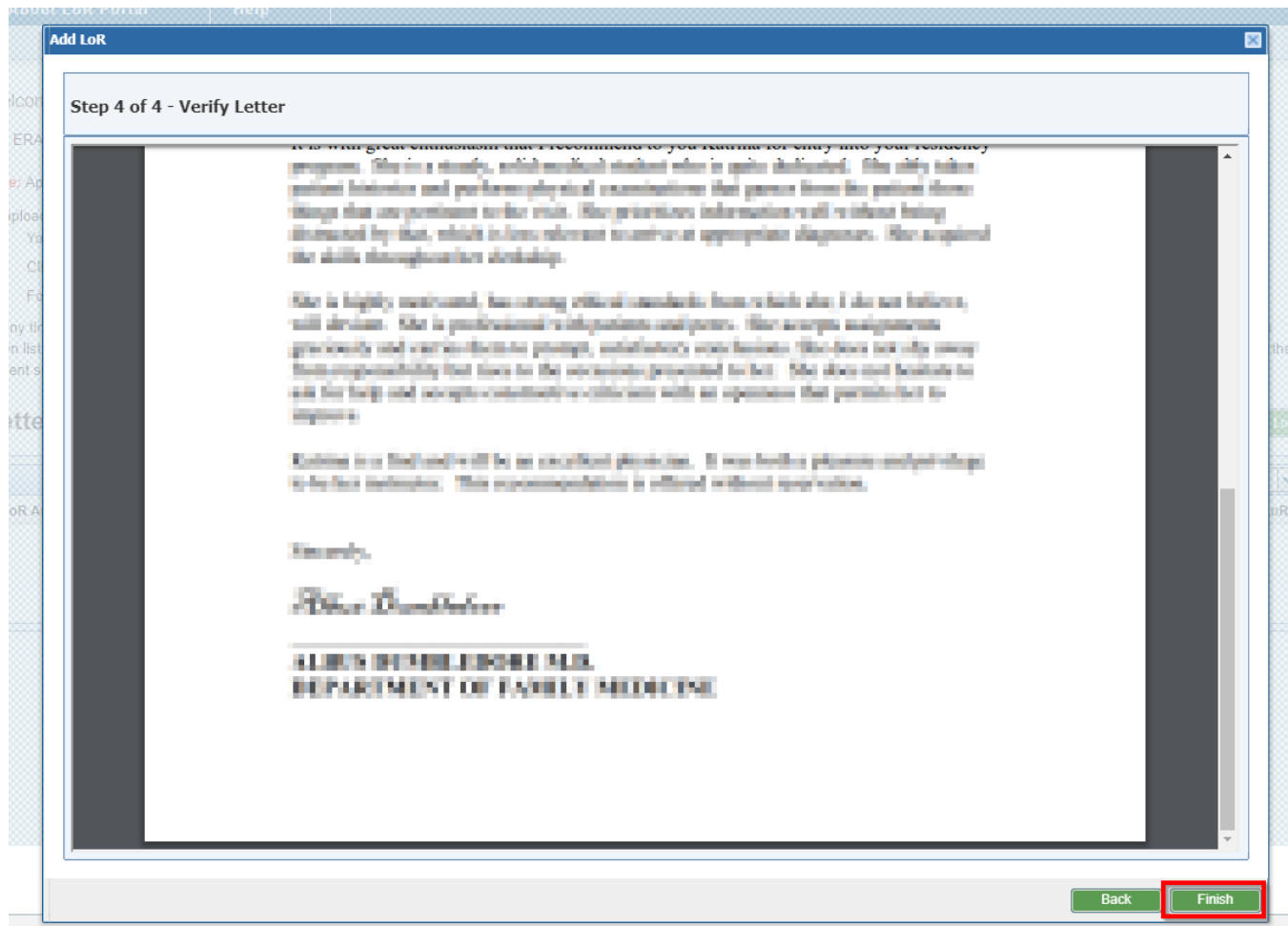
**Step 3 of 4 - Upload Letter**

- All files must be in a PDF format.
- File size cannot exceed 1 MB.
- File cannot be password protected.
- File page cannot exceed a maximum size of 8.5 x 11 inches.
- Filename cannot contain the following special characters: | \* ? \ : < >
- It is recommended that all letters be written and submitted on professional letterhead.
- LoR(s) should be signed by the LoR Author and include a date.

**Letter to Upload:**  **Browse**

**Back** **Continue**

- After verifying the LoR, click *Finish*. A confirmation message will appear. After reading the message, click *OK* to proceed with uploading the LoR.



Then, the *LoR Manager* screen will display and you will be able to see that the LoR was successfully uploaded.



**Note:** Once an LoR is uploaded, it cannot be modified. To alter the letter, you must upload a new version.



## Uploading a New Version of an Existing LoR

### To create a new version of an LoR:

1. Identify the applicant that you will be uploading a new LoR for on the *LoR Manager* screen and click the upload icon located in the *Upload LoR* column.

#### Letters of Recommendation (LoR) Manager

[+ Add New LoR](#)

Season: 2020									
LoR Author	Applicant Name	Applicant Type	Specialty Assignment	AAMC ID	Letter ID	Last Upload Date	Upload LoR	View LoR	Imported LoR
Testing	Example Applicant	R	Specialty Example	21061128	8HSQ95CEA	2019-06-03 11:23:13.0			

2. Follow the same steps used to upload the initial letter including:
  - Verify the ERAS Application Season, Applicant and LoR Author details
  - Upload the LoR and
  - Verify the LoR



**Note:** Programs will only be able to see the most recently uploaded version; however, you will be able to see all versions you have uploaded.

## Sorting Information

By clicking on the arrows that appear when you hover over the column headers in the *Letter of Recommendation (LoR) Manager* screen, you can sort the information displayed.

Each column has a drop-down list that will allow you to sort in either ascending or descending order.

### Letters of Recommendation (LoR) Manager

Season: 2020

LoR Author	Applicant Name	Applicant Type	Specialty Assignment	AAMC ID	Letter ID	Last Upload Date	Upload LoR	View LoR	Imported LoR
Testing	Example Applicant	Sort Ascending Sort Descending	Specialty Example	21061128	8HSQ95CEA	2019-06-03 11:23:13.0	+	+	+

Selecting the *Columns* option in the drop-down list allows you to add and remove columns by clicking on the checkboxes.

### Letters of Recommendation (LoR) Manager

Season: 2020

LoR Author	Applicant Name	Applicant Type	Specialty Assignment	AAMC ID	Letter ID	Last Upload Date	Upload LoR	View LoR	Imported LoR
Testing	Example Applicant	Sort Ascending Sort Descending	Specialty Example	21061128	8HSQ95CEA	2019-06-03 11:23:13.0	+	+	+

- LoR Author
- Applicant Name
- Applicant Type
- Specialty Assignment
- AAMC ID
- Letter ID
- Last Upload Date
- Upload LoR
- View LoR
- Imported LoR
- Import Date
- Season Imported Date





**Note:** The *Letter Author* column will display the author's name the way it was entered by the applicant in their MyERAS application.

## Toggling Between Seasons

Use the Season drop-down list to select ERAS Seasons on the *Letters of Recommendation (LoR) Manager* screen. You may then view LoRs that were previously uploaded to the LoRP, and upload new letters.

### Letters of Recommendation (LoR) Manager

[+ Add New LoR](#)

LoR Author	Applicant Name	Applicant Type	Specialty Assignment	AAMC ID	Letter ID	Last Upload Date	Upload LoR	View LoR	Season
Testing	Example Applicant	R	Specialty Example	21061128	8HSQ95CEA	2019-06-03 11:23:13.0			2020 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021

## Letter of Recommendation Imports

Letter of Recommendations from prior seasons can be imported by applicants into their current MyERAS application season to be sent to programs. Applicants will only be able to import their most recent residency or fellowship LoRs. The LoR entry information and viewing rights will be consistent with the original and cannot be changed; however, the letter author does maintain the right to upload a new version of the LoR. Lastly, the ERAS system generates a message to notify authors, or those who upload documents on their behalf (designees), when LoRs are imported. If you would like to upload a new version, select the *Upload LoR* option next to an entry with the *Imported LoR* icon.

Welcome, Author 1

The ERAS Letter of Recommendation Portal, allows users to upload letters of recommendation (LoR) to ERAS.

**Note:** Applicants cannot assign LoRs to programs until it has been uploaded to ERAS.

To upload a LoR:

- You will need the Letter ID from Letter Request Form provided to you by the applicant
- Click **+ Add New LoR**
- Follow the steps in the wizard

At any time you may view letters you have uploaded to the system or upload new versions of existing letters by using the icons in the Upload LoR and View LoR columns below. Use the Season drop down list at the top of the Letter of Recommendation (LoR) Manager to toggle between seasons. This allows you to view any LoR(s) unloaderd for the previously closed season and upload LoR(s) for the current season(s).

### Letters of Recommendation (LoR) Manager

[+ Add New LoR](#)

LoR Author	Applicant Name	Specialty Assignment	AAMC ID	Letter ID	Last Upload Date	Upload LoR	View LoR	Imported LoR
Author 1	Applicant A	Specialty B	20000000	6IE00NLLH	2018-05-08 11:48:4...			
Author 1	Applicant B	Specialty C	20000001	6IU01P7F4	2018-01-10 10:16:2...			



## LoRP FAQ

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### What is a Letter Request Form?


- The Letter Request Form (LRF) is a document that includes instructions on how to access the ERASLoRP, applicant information, the Letter ID and if the applicant has waived their right to see the LoR. You should receive a form for each letter you are asked to write.

### Will the LoRP convert my file to a PDF format or should it already be in a PDF format before I upload it?

- In order to upload a LoR, it must already be in a PDF format. The LoRP does not have the capability to convert your file into a PDF format. PDFs with encryption, password protection, or digital signatures cannot be uploaded. Any LoRs that do not meet these guidelines must be revised and resubmitted.

*For more information on the PDF file format, please see [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com).*

### How can I view an existing LoR for an applicant listed in my LoRManager?

- Click the Adobe icon  located under the *View LoR* column of the *LoR Manager*.

I mistakenly uploaded the wrong letter for an applicant. What should I do?

- Once a LoR has been uploaded for an applicant, it cannot be modified or removed. To make a correction, you must upload a revised version of the LoR using the instructions under *Uploading a New Version of an Existing LoR* section of the user guide. Programs will only be able to view the most recent version of the LoR but LoR Authors will be able to view all versions.

### What if my file exceeds the 1 MB size limit?

- If you are struggling to meet the 1 MB file size limit, please try using a black and white document, minimizing or removing graphics, and/or adjusting your *Adobe* (PDF creator) settings.


### I received an email notifying me that an applicant is re-using a LoR I've uploaded previously. Is there anything I need to do?

- Authors and uploaders are notified by email if an applicant opts to import letters from a prior season. You may review the letter in the LoR Manager (entry will have an imported icon under the *Imported LoR* column). If you choose to upload a new version of the LoR, you may do so by using the *Upload LoR* option.

## ERAS HelpDesk Contact Information

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 [Send us a Message](#)

 (202) 862-6298  
Monday - Friday  
8 a.m. - 6 p.m. ET

<https://www.aamc.org/eras/lorp>

