

**Q: How does the Military Match work?**

**A: Military Match (From the AOA's Tips, Tactics and Truths: A Guide to making the Most of your Osteopathic Medical Education)**

There's a GME Match specifically for the military. This program is primarily used by students already on active duty in funded educational programs (ROTC, HPSP, USUHS and others). DOs and MDs who graduate from accredited schools fill first-year graduate medical education (FYGME) positions in the military, which are equivalent to internships. To apply, you must qualify for appointment as a commissioned officer in the armed services.

**Military programs also use [ERAS](#).** In addition to those documents required through the [AOA](#) or [NRMP](#) Match, each branch of the military may require other applications. You will be required to take a physical exam and fill out military paperwork regarding your background. Be sure to meet the deadlines in submitting your paperwork because if you don't, your medical school scholarship entitlements might be suspended or even revoked.

Since the military match occurs first and the military doesn't have a surplus of FYGME openings, you may still register for the AOA or the NRMP Match. If you're seeking training in a specialty that is in high demand, you may be deferred from obligatory military programs. It's your responsibility to tell civilian programs about your military obligations when you interview. You must inform them that you will withdraw from their matching program if you are appointed to a military program. In fact, you will be automatically withdrawn from the NRMP if you are appointed to a military program. However, you must personally remove yourself from the AOA match through the NMS Web site.

If you train in an FYGME military program, you can apply for AOA approval of this program as an osteopathic internship. To obtain AOA approval, you must maintain AOA membership; register with the AOA Division of Postdoctoral Training; and meet the core expectations of an AOA internship. Then, be sure that your program meets the AOA's rotational requirements.

The AOA understands that not all of the military programs give you the chance to complete the AOA's required rotations, so use your elective time to complete as many of the requirements as possible. In addition, you may seek AOA approval of your military internship and subsequent residency training, which allows you to become eligible for AOA board certification in your specialty. To do this, you have to request and submit an application to the AOA Division of Certification and Trainee Services. You can also download the [application for military internship here](#) and/or federal military/ACGME residency approval forms.

**Students with Military Commitments (From the [NMS Website](#))**

Students with military commitments will participate in the government's military matching program, which is completed prior to the AOA Match process. Students who have been assigned

to a military program cannot participate in the AOA Match and must inform NMS of their military position by January 28, 2011. The procedure for notifying NMS will be included in the Rank Order List instructions available to students by the end of November. NMS will then inform the AOA on behalf of the student.

Students who have not been assigned to a military program, but who have a military commitment, may fully participate in the AOA Match. It is the student's responsibility to advise programs of the potential for military obligations during the interview process.

If a trainee participates in a Federal/Military postdoctoral training program, the trainee may apply for AOA approval by visiting [www.do-online.org](http://www.do-online.org). Students are advised to seek such approval to keep open the opportunity for expanded practice options, as well as the option of AOA certification in any chosen specialty.

### [Military GME](#)

This website is for individuals considering a career as a military physician, for current medical students of the USUHS and for those attending a civilian medical school under the Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP). Students participating in the military match need to contact their military counselors for special instructions