

2026 Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology (MSDO) Fellowship Application Forum

This forum will be recorded and posted at www.mohscollege.org on the Fellowship Training > Dermatology Resident page



**Association of Professors of
Dermatology**

Introduction



Nkanyezi Ferguson, MD, FACMS
APD Chair of the Surgical Section
University of Missouri
Columbia, MO



Melissa Pugliano-Mauro, MD, FACMS
ACMS Fellowship Training Committee
Chair
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
Pittsburgh, PA



Ramona Behshad, MD, FACMS
ACMS Fellowship Training Committee
Vice Chair
Saint Louis University
St. Louis, MO

Who We Are

- American College of Mohs Surgery (ACMS)
 - Membership organization of fellowship-trained skin cancer and reconstructive surgeons specializing in the Mohs micrographic surgical technique used to treat skin cancer
 - Members must have successfully completed an accredited fellowship in Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology
 - 1,908 U.S. Members; 101 International Members; 22 International Affiliate Members
- Association of Professors of Dermatology (APD)
 - Established in 1960
 - Membership organization of leading educators in dermatology
 - Members are individuals from Dermatology Departments or Sections in accredited Medical Schools and Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine and freestanding programs from the United States, Puerto Rico and Canada

- ACMS Fellowship Training Committee

- Monitor and recommend changes to policy and procedure governing MSDO fellowship training
- Provide support for trainees and fellowship programs
- Oversee the San Francisco Match program
- Monitor and evaluate new and existing *international* ACMS-approved MSDO programs
- Purpose of this forum is to provide clarity to application process

- Feedback from previous Match applicants

History

- 1930s - Mohs micrographic surgery developed by Dr. Frederic Mohs at the University of Wisconsin
- 1967 - American College of Mohs Surgery founded by Dr. Mohs
- 1969 – First formal Mohs micrographic surgery fellowships are established
- 2003 – Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education begins accrediting ‘Procedural Dermatology’ fellowship programs
- 2013 – All oversight of U.S. Procedural Dermatology fellowship programs turned over to the ACGME
- 2015 – ACMS & ACGME update the subspecialty name from ‘Procedural Dermatology’ and ‘Mohs micrographic surgery’ to ‘Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology’
- 2021 – American Board of Dermatology administering the first Micrographic Dermatologic Surgery (MDS) Board Certification Exam

Agenda

- MSDO ACGME Program Overview - Dr. Divya Srivastava
- San Francisco Match - Mr. Dennis Thomatos
- Match Exemptions & ACMS Dermatology Resident Resources - Ms. Susan Lathrop
- Common Letter of Recommendation (CLOR); Snapshot CV; Signaling - Dr. Ramona Behshad
- Dermatology Residency Program Director Perspective - Dr. Melissa Pugliano-Mauro
- Navigating Virtual Interviews - Dr. S. Brian Jiang
- Current Fellow-in-Training Perspective - Dr. Ajay Sharma
- Live Q&A with attendees

The ACGME: Key Components of an MSDO Fellowship

Divya Srivastava, MD
Associate Professor
Fellowship Director, MSDO
University of Texas Southwestern



Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education



Sponsoring Institutions
Training Programs
Faculty
Fellows, residents, students

Micrographic Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology

- Subspecialty of dermatology concerned with the **study, diagnosis, and surgical treatment of malignancies of the skin** and adjacent mucous membranes, cutaneous appendages, hair, nails, and subcutaneous tissue. A particular emphasis is the surgical and medical management of patients with high risk cutaneous malignancies
 - Cutaneous oncologic surgery (including Mohs + dermatopathology application)
 - Cutaneous reconstructive surgery
 - Dermatologic Oncology

What is an MSDO Fellowship?

- Training after dermatology residency
- 12 months long
- At least **1000** dermatologic procedures per fellow available
 - At least 650 must be Mohs cases
- Fellow as primary surgeon:
 - **500** Mohs cases
 - **500** reconstructions
 - *ACMS: 50 should be advanced/complex reconstructions*

What is an MSDO Fellowship?

- Didactics
 - Access to specialty specific reference materials
- Scholarly Activity
 - Prepare manuscript for publication or do a regional/national presentation
- Education
 - Contribute to dermatology education of residents/students
 - Also not have interference from other learners

Six Core Competencies

- Professionalism
- **Patient Care/Procedures**
- **Medical Knowledge**
- Practice Based Learning
- Interpersonal Skills
- Systems Based Practice

Procedural Competence → ACGME Case Logs

- Skin neoplasm destruction, excision, Mohs, reconstructive surgery (including flaps and grafts), appropriately refer patients if needed

Medical Knowledge:

- Anatomy, instruments, sterilization, aseptic technique, anesthesia, closure materials
- Basic science of wound healing and peri-operative management
- Non-surgical treatments
- Staging, prognosis, pathology

Who can apply?

- Must have completed one of the following in Dermatology:
 - **ACGME-accredited residency program**
 - **AOA-approved residency**
 - ACGME International Advanced Specialty Accreditation
 - Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada
 - College of Family Physicians of Canada
- Exceptions can be made for foreign medical graduates
 - ECFMG verification
 - Institution GMEC approval
- Graduate Medical Education values the strength that a diverse group of physicians brings to medical care

Who can be a Program Director?

- Authority and accountability for the program
- Current certification in the subspecialty
- Completion of an ACGME/ACMS/AOA fellowship or PD for at least 10 years
- At least 6 years of patient care experience
- At least 3 years in GME in dermatology/dermatologic surgery
- Personally performs procedures
- Cannot require a restrictive covenant or competition guarantee

Who can be on faculty?

- Should be at least one other faculty member who works in clinical practice of cutaneous oncology
 - Mohs, ENT, oculoplastics, plastics
- Faculty teaching Mohs should have completed a 12 month PGY-5 dermatologic surgery fellowship

The Learning Environment

- Adequate space, Mohs lab/CLIA approved, space for reading/charting
- Safety and security
- Clean private area for lactation
- Accommodation for disabilities c/w sponsoring institutions policy

- Supervision
- Evaluation

- Patient safety and quality improvement
- Physician wellness

Key Points

- 12 months long
- At least **1000** dermatologic procedures per fellow
 - At least 650 must be Mohs cases
- Fellow as primary surgeon:
 - **500** Mohs cases
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Procedural Competence → ACGME Case Logs

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- Staging, prognosis, pathology

Newly Accredited Programs

- PROs:
 - Input into design of a new program
 - Enthusiastic faculty
 - New facilities (?)
 - Novel research ideas/collaboration
 - CONs:
 - No track record
 - Lack resource of former fellows
 - Uncertain level of autonomy (surgeon used to doing cases as primary surgeon)
 - Uncertain research infrastructure
 - Will eventually undergo review
 - Less knowledge of “little logistics” – funds for conferences, on-boarding protocols, etc
- **Need to have case volume and protocols in place

Maximizing Networking Experiences: Virtually and at Conferences

- Participate in formal preceptorship/mentorship programs (ASDS, WDS)
- Get involved in organized medicine committees as the resident representative
- Work on projects with your local mentor that may allow for collaboration with other PDs
- Attend lectures given by program directors
- Present posters/oral abstracts at meetings
- Attend small meetings (state derm, ITSCC, ASDS resident symposium)
- If you have an established relationship, can email to meet briefly at a meeting

Thank you!!!

divya.srivastava@utsouthwestern.edu



Micrographic Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology 2026 ACMS/APD Dermatology Resident Forum

Dennis Thomatos
SF Match
April 26, 2026



Overview

- Navigating
- Applying to Programs/Signaling
- Link to the Accreditation Site
- 2026 Match Timeline
- Match Rules



■ Navigating the Website

- Applicant registers on the sf match portal starting June 8th, 2026 at www.sfmitch.org
- Registration has many steps in logical order to collect information.
- You start the process by registering at the site above. If you applied in a prior year you must login to your profile first, then register for this year.



Register and
Login from
www.sfmitch.org

sfmatch Residency and Fellowship Match Services

[SPECIALTIES](#) [ABOUT US](#) [VACANCIES](#) [MATCH CALENDAR](#) [FOR MEDICAL SCHOOLS](#) [CONTACT US](#)

Log In or [Register](#)

Your Partner in the Match Process

Customizable solutions from SF Match will streamline your residency and fellowship match



Residency
and Fellowship
Match Services

[Log In](#) or [Register](#)

[SPECIALTIES](#) [ABOUT US](#) [VACANCIES](#) [MATCH CALENDAR](#) [FOR MEDICAL SCHOOLS](#) [CONTACT US](#)

[SF Match](#) / [Specialties](#) / Fellowship - Micrographic Surgery/Derm Oncol

Micrographic Surgery/Derm Oncol

Overview

[Central Application Service \(CAS\)](#)

[Timetable](#)

[Announcements](#)

[Information for Medical Schools](#)

[Information for Programs](#)

[Match Rules](#)

[Statistics](#)

[Helpful Links](#)

[FAQs](#)

OVERVIEW

The Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship Match was established in 1995. Its goal is to coordinate fellowship appointments, thus relieving the pressure of uncoordinated appointments and forced early choices. The participating programs will not make any appointments until the match has been completed.

Sponsorship

The **American College of Mohs Surgery** (ACMS or "College") sponsors the matching process and is responsible for enforcement of applicable rules. The SF Match does not sponsor or approve any of the participating programs. The function of the SF Match is strictly limited to processing of the match. Listing or not listing any program in the directory does not imply any form of approval, disapproval or endorsement.

About The Match

The match takes place in December and will be used to process all applicants who want to start their Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship training in July of the following year. Applicants are responsible for ensuring they meet all prerequisites for eligibility prior to registering for the match. All match participants must agree and abide by the SF Match rules and policies as well as any additional rules stated by the sponsoring group. Please review the Rules page prior to registering.



Click
Specialties /
Micrographic
Surgery...



Steps to Complete an Application

Review the detailed instruction set.

It can be downloaded from the CAS link page

SF Match / Specialties / Fellowship - Micrographic Surgery/Derm Oncol / Central Application Service (CAS)

Micrographic Surgery/Derm Oncol

Overview

Central Application Service (CAS)

The Central Application Service (CAS) distributes applications to residency and fellowship training programs online.

Application to Micrographic Surgery Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship programs must include following:

1. CAS Application:
 - Complete Personal Info form
 - Submit Additional Info form
2. Personal Statement;
3. CV;
4. Medical School Transcript(s);
5. Copy of Medical School Diploma;
6. MSPE;
7. Three (3) letters of reference*;
8. ECFMG Certificate (applicable to International Graduates).

*ALL letters of recommendation must be in Standardized Letter of Recommended (SLOR). No exceptions.
The SLOR may be found on the MOHS College website: <https://www.mohscollege.org/fellowship-training> under fellowship match. The direct link is: https://www.mohscollege.org/UserFiles/file/SLORTemplate_v1.pdf
Letters must be from a residency surgical director (or equivalent), residency program director, and/or surgeon with whom applicant has spent significant time.



Micrographic Surgery/Dermatology Oncology

Overview

Central Application Service (CAS)

CENTRAL APPLICATION SERVICE (CAS)

The Central Application Service (CAS) distributes applications to residency and fellowship training programs online.

Timetable

Application to Micrographic Surgery Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship programs must include following:

Announcements

1. CAS Application:

Information for Medical Schools

- Complete Personal Info form
- Submit Required Supplemental form

Information for Programs

Match Rules

2. Personal Statement;

Statistics

3. CV;

Helpful Links

4. Medical School Transcript(s);

FAQs

5. Copy of Medical School Diploma;

6. MSPE;

7. Three (3) letters of reference;*

8. ECFMG Certificate (applicable to International Graduates).

*ALL letters of recommendation must be in the Common Letter of Recommendation. No exceptions.

The Common Letter of Recommendation may be found on the MOHS College website:

<https://www.mohscollege.org/fellowship-training> under fellowship match. The direct link

is: https://www.mohscollege.org/UserFiles/file/CLORTemplate_v1.pdf

Letters must be from a residency surgical director (or equivalent), residency program director, and/or surgeon with whom the applicant has spent significant time.

Download the complete instructions from the Central Application Menu →

Review Summary Task List after Login

The screenshot displays the sfmatch application interface for a user named Joseph Adams. The main navigation bar includes the sfmatch logo, a 'MATCHES' dropdown, and the current match title: '2023 Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship Match for 2024 Positions'. The user's profile information, including a notification bell and a 'Joseph Adams #73243 Impersonated' dropdown, is visible in the top right corner.

The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with the following items: Summary, Personal Info, Required Supplemental..., Documents, Programs, Interviews Completed, Rank List, Match Results, Vacancies, Transactions, and Instructions and more.

The central 'TASK LIST' section is divided into two main areas:

- TASK LIST:** A list of tasks with progress indicators and action buttons.
 - Submit Required Supplemental Form (0 of 0) [Action: >]
 - Upload Global Documents (0 of 5) [Action: >]
 - Med School Transcript
 - MSPE
 - ECFMG certificate
 - CV
 - Medical School Diploma
 - Request Letters of Recommendation (0 of 3) [Action: >]
 - Select the Programs where you have interviewed [Action: >]
- COMPLETED TASKS:** A list of tasks that have been successfully completed, each marked with a green checkmark.
 - Complete Personal Info Section [Status: ✓]
 - Create Personal Statement [Status: ✓]
 - Assign LORs/Personal Statement to Applied Programs (4) [Status: ✓]
 - Add missing Usmle Step 1 Test Results [Status: ✓]

The right sidebar features a 'MATCH SUMMARY' section with the following details:

- SF Match ID: 73243
- Applicant: Joseph Adams
- Applied Programs: 1
- Rank List Status: Not Submitted
- Match Results: 03/30/2023
- Application: [Action: Print PDF]

Below the match summary is a green banner titled 'WHAT MAKES YOUR APPLICATION COMPLETE?' with an upward-pointing arrow icon. This section contains several key instructions:

- Complete Your Personal Information:** Try to complete your Personal Information sections before applying to programs. Your personal information is displayed to the program after you apply.
- Submit Required Supplemental Form:** Submission of this form is required as part of your application to programs.
- Upload All Required Documents:** Make sure to upload all of your required documents. Please note that some documents may need to be uploaded by your Medical School. Please refer to your Global Documents page.
- Assign Personal Statements and LORs:** You may assign different personal statements and LOR's to each program. You must assign the required amount to each program for your application to be complete for that program.
- Apply to Programs:** If you do not apply to a program the program will not see you in their applicant's list. Make sure to apply to the programs you have saved.



TASK LIST

Submit Required Supplemental Form



Upload Global Documents

0 of 5



- Med School Transcript
- MSPE
- ECFMG certificate
- CV
- Medical School Diploma

Request Letters of Recommendation 

0 of 3



Select the Programs where you have interviewed



COMPLETED TASKS

Complete Personal Info Section



Create Personal Statement



Assign LORs/Personal Statement to Applied Programs

4



Add missing Usmlle Step 1 Test Results



Complete each section of the profile.



Summary
Personal Info
Required Supplemental ...
Documents
Programs
Interview Scheduler
Interviews Completed
Rank List
Vacancies
Transactions
Instructions and more

If you are a Canadian graduate, provide the name of the RCPSC-accredited or CFPC-accredited program where you completed your residency:

Do you speak a foreign language with sufficient fluency to treat a patient who only speaks that language?*

Yes No

If yes, specify languages:

DISCLOSURES

Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense, other than minor traffic violations?*

Yes No

Has any action or investigation ever been undertaken (including pending), which involves denial, revocation, suspension, reduction, limitation, probation, nonrenewal or voluntary loss by resignation or expiration of your board certification, or medical staff membership or privileges at any health care facility?*

Yes No

Is there any professional liability claims been filed against you?*

Yes No

If you answered 'Yes' to any of the above questions, please provide an explanation of the circumstances:

Save draft SUBMIT

The Required Supplemental form

Submit at the BOTTOM and this tab is required.



MATCHES ▾ 2024 Micrographic Surgery/Dermatology Oncology Fellowship for 2024 positions

Home / Program directory

Programs

PROGRAM DIRECTORY **SAVED PROGRAMS (1)** APPLIED PROGRAMS

? **CLICK FOR INSTRUCTIONS** Map View

State/Province: Application Deadline On/After:

<input type="checkbox"/>	PR03501 UCSF Procedural Dermatology	<input type="button" value="Remove"/>
Positions Available: 1 Application Deadline: Years of Training: 1		
Directors: Angela S Moore, MD, Program Director		

Applying
to
programs

Search Directory and Save choices



Choose each program and then apply Signal on Saved Programs Tab.

Note- Once you apply you cannot change the signal choice.

ALL **INCOMPLETE** COMPLETED

INCOMPLETE (4)

PRO9013 **BWH-MGH Multiple Sclerosis & Neuroimmunology Fellowship Program - clinical. Boston** Apply Signal Assign Documents Remove

Letter of Recommendations: 0 of 3 - Not assigned

Personal Statement: 0 of 1 - Not assigned

PRO9119 **Cleveland Clinic Nevada - Adult Neurology and PM&R - clinical . Las Vegas** Apply Signal Assign Documents Remove

Letter of Recommendations: 0 of 3 - Not assigned

Personal Statement: 0 of 1 - Not assigned

PRO9179 **Cleveland Clinic - adult & pediatric - combined clinical + research. Cleveland** Apply Signal Assign Documents Remove

Letter of Recommendations: 0 of 3 - Not assigned

Personal Statement: 0 of 1 - Not assigned



Choose to signal when applying.

Once you signal and apply, you cant change the choices.

PROGRAM DIRECTORY **SAVED PROGRAMS (7)** APPLIED PROGRAMS (3)

? CLICK FOR INSTRUCTIONS

Applied Programs: 3 total 0 completed 3 incomplete **Signals: ★ 3 total ★ 0 available ★ 2 signaled**

Select All [Assign documents to 0 selected](#)

ALL INCOMPLETE COMPLETED

INCOMPLETE (3)

PRO9117
 Cedars-Sinai Medical Center - clinical + optional research. Los Angeles, CA **★ Signaled** Applied: 04/19/2024

Letter of Recommendations: ✓ 3 of 3 Jacob Clendenon, MD
 Kristopher Croome, MD
 Leigh Neumayer, MD, MS, MBA

Personal Statement: ✓ 1 of 1 Personal Statement

PRO9182
 Emory University-Adult-Clinical and Research Fellowship - combined clinical + research. Atlanta, GA Applied: 04/19/2024

Letter of Recommendations: ✓ 3 of 3 Thomas Peters, MD
 Jacob Clendenon, MD



Letters of Reference

- System works by email to request reference letter(LOR) from author.
- Access the LOR request from the Documents Section.
- Letters get uploaded by the letter writer to the system.
Note: feature is available upon registration.



Application Variable Content

You can save multiple personal statements and can collect more than 3 letters and choose which statement and Letters of reference go to each program.



Interviews and Ranking

Interviews are initiated by the programs and virtual interviews can be done within the system.

Programs can choose how to conduct interviews
Virtual in our system, 3rd Party such as Zoom, In-Person.



SMS/Text Updates

Text updates are available if you subscribe and provide a cell number and elect to receive SMS messages.

Verify and sign-up on your profile after registration.
(Select your profile at the top and choose settings.)



2025 Match Timetable

Micrographic Surgery/Dermatology Oncology

Overview

Central Application Service (CAS)

Timetable

Announcements

Information for Medical Schools

Information for Programs

Match Rules

Helpful Links

FAQs

Data Report

TIMETABLE

Timetable: 2026 Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship Match for 2027 Positions

Monday, June 8, 2026 Applicant Registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicant registration begins. Please note that although registration is open until the rank list deadline, applicants are encouraged to register as early as possible to allow time for application and interviews.
Saturday, August 1, 2026 Application Deadline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deadline to apply to programs.
Wednesday, December 2, 2026 @ 12:00 PM (noon) PT Match Deadline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ALL rank lists must be submitted by 12:00 PM (noon) PT. After the deadline rank, list choices will be locked and no changes can be made.
Wednesday, December 9, 2026 @ 9:00 AM PT Match Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match results are made available to programs, medical schools, and applicants. Log in to your SF Match account to view match results.
Thursday, December 10, 2026 Post-match vacancies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any vacancies that remain after the match will be announced on the Immediate Vacancies page. Vacancy listings are managed by the individual programs.
July 2027 Training begins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology (Mohs Micrographic Surgery) Fellowship training begins.

- sfmatch.org
- Specialty
 - Mohs
 - Timetable



Accreditation Link



ACGME

The Link is at the bottom of the Overview page

The screenshot shows the SF Match website interface. At the top left is the SF Match logo and the text "Residency and Fellowship Match Services". To the right are navigation links: "SPECIALTIES", "ABOUT US", "VACANCIES", "MATCH CALENDAR", "FOR MEDICAL SCHOOLS", and "CONTACT US". Further right are "Log In" and "Register" links. Below the navigation is a breadcrumb trail: "SF Match / Specialties / Fellowship - Micrographic Surgery/Derm Oncol". The main heading "Micrographic Surgery/Derm Oncol" is highlighted in yellow. On the left side, there is a sidebar menu with links: "Overview", "Central Application Service (CAS)", "Timetable", "Announcements", "Information for Medical Schools", "Information for Programs", "Match Rules", "Statistics", "Helpful Links", and "FAQs". The main content area has an "OVERVIEW" section with the following text: "The Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship Match was established in 1995. Its goal is to coordinate fellowship appointments, thus relieving the pressure of uncoordinated appointments and forced early choices. The participating programs will not make any appointments until the match has been completed." Below this is a "Sponsorship" section: "The American College of Mohs Surgery (ACMS or 'College') sponsors the matching process and is responsible for enforcement of applicable rules. The SF Match does not sponsor or approve any of the participating programs. The function of the SF Match is strictly limited to processing of the match. Listing or not listing any program in the directory does not imply any form of approval, disapproval or endorsement." Finally, there is an "About The Match" section: "The match takes place in December and will be used to process all applicants who want to start their Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship training in July of the following year. Applicants are responsible for ensuring they meet all prerequisites for eligibility prior to registering for the match. All match participants must agree and abide by the SF Match rules and policies as well as any additional rules stated by the sponsoring group. Please review the Rules page prior to registering."



ACGME Live Link

On the ACGME site pulldown menu find Dermatology and Micrographic Surgery is in that section. *Live Search*

[Click here](#) to view the ACGME Fellow Eligibility Requirements found on page 15.

[Click here](#) to view the ACMS Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines for international programs.

[Click here](#) to view the ACMS Exemption policy and list of Exemptions

Accreditation status: 'Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology'

Application Process

SF Match's Central Application Service (CAS) distributes complete applications to programs electronically. The use of CAS is mandatory for both programs and applicants. For more information, visit the Central Application Service (CAS) tab .

Please read the information on this website and contact the SF Match if you need assistance.



Rules



Rules

You agree to the rules of the match when you register and when you submit your rank list.

There is a rules tab on the specialty page for Micrographic Surgery that contains the sponsors rules. You must abide by the rules of the match and the sponsoring society.



Thank You

SF Match



END

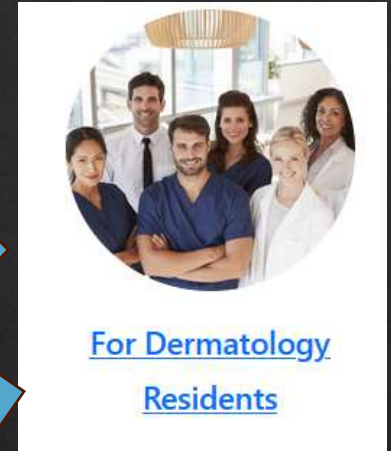
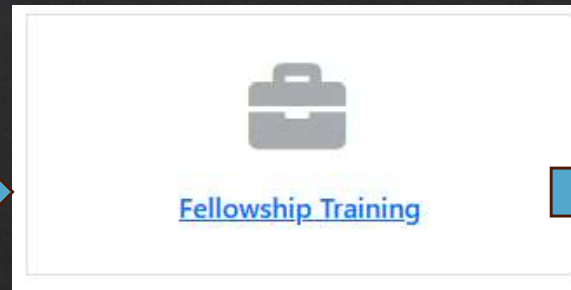
Match Exemptions & ACMS Dermatology Resident Resources

Susan Lathrop, CAE
ACMS Education Manager

Match Exemptions

- All MSDO Fellowship training programs and directors are expected to participate in the match in order for applicants to be considered for membership in the ACMS
- The purpose of Match exemptions is to accommodate specific candidates who face unique circumstances
- As of 2019, 2 **exceptions** for which a Program Director may request exemption from the Match:
 1. Applicants on active military duty, *or*
 2. International (non-Canadian) applicants
- Each request for an exemption will be evaluated individually

Approved & past exemptions are listed on the ACMS website, www.mohscollege.org



2026 Match Exemptions

- Anna A. Bar, MD, FACMS (Oregon Health & Science University; 1 exempt position of 1 position)
- Hubert T. Greenway, Jr., MD, FACMS (Scripps Clinic; 2 exempt positions of 3 positions)
- Thomas E. Rohrer, MD, FACMS (SkinCare Physicians; 1 exempt position of 1 position)

Approved exemptions are communicated to SF Match

General Information **MSDO Fellowship Match**

MSDO Fellowship Match

The Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology (MSDO) Match is conducted by the Fall, and the match occurs in December.

- [ACMS Match Policy](#)
- [Match Violation Policy for MSDO Programs](#)
- [Match Exemption](#)
- [MSDO Program Number of Applicants Banked Data](#)

Candidate Transparency

- List of the MSDO Programs & Number of Applicants Ranked Data

-Beginning with the 2023 Match

-# of Applicants Ranked

MSDO Fellowship Match

The Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology (Mohs) Fellowship is conducted by the Fall, and the match occurs in December for training beginning in the following year.

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- [Match Exemption](#)
- MSDO Program Number of Applicants Ranked Data
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 - [2024 Match \(2025-26 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2023 Match \(2024-25 fellowship year\)](#)
- MSDO Program & Fellow-in-Training Dermatology Residency Data
 - [2025 Match \(2026-27 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2024 Match \(2025-26 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2023 Match \(2024-25 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2022 Match \(2023-24 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2021 Match \(2022-23 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2020 Match \(2021-22 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2019 Match \(2020-21 fellowship year\)](#)
- [Common Letter of Recommendation](#)
- [Snap Shot CV](#)
- [Introduction Video Guidelines](#)
- [Skill Set Video Guidelines](#)
- [MSDO \(Mohs\) Fellowship FAQs](#)

Candidate Transparency

- Lists of the MSDO Programs & the Residency Program of their fellow(s)

- 2019-2025 Match years

- For positions filled in and outside of the Match

- Names of matched applicants not included

MSDO Fellowship Match

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- [MSDO \(Mohs\) Fellowship FAQs](#)

Match Violation Policy

A violation occurs when there is a breach of the specified rules for Program Directors.

Match violations include, but are not limited to:

- A program without a formal exemption making commitment for its position or withdrawing prior to completion of the Match cycle.
- A Program Director or applicant asking the other for a commitment prior to the completion of the Match cycle.
- A Program Director revealing how he/she ranked any applicant.

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 - [2023 Match \(2024-25 fellowship year\)](#)
- MSDO Program & Fellow-in-Training Dermatology Residency Data
 - [2025 Match \(2026-27 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2024 Match \(2025-26 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2023 Match \(2024-25 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2022 Match \(2023-24 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2021 Match \(2022-23 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2020 Match \(2021-22 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2019 Match \(2020-21 fellowship year\)](#)
- [Common Letter of Recommendation](#)
- [Snap Shot CV](#)
- [Introduction Video Guidelines](#)
- [Skill Set Video Guidelines](#)
- [MSDO \(Mohs\) Fellowship FAQs](#)

Resources Used for the Match Process & FAQs

MSDO Fellowship Match

The Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology (Mohs) Fellowship is conducted by the Fall, and the match occurs in December for training beginning the following year.

- [ACMS Match Policy](#)
- [Match Violation Policy for MSDO Programs](#)
- [Match Exemption](#)
- MSDO Program Number of Applicants Ranked Data
 - [2025 Match \(2026-27 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2024 Match \(2025-26 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2023 Match \(2024-25 fellowship year\)](#)
- MSDO Program & Fellow-in-Training Dermatology Residency Data
 - [2025 Match \(2026-27 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2024 Match \(2025-26 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2023 Match \(2024-25 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2022 Match \(2023-24 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2021 Match \(2022-23 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2020 Match \(2021-22 fellowship year\)](#)
 - [2019 Match \(2020-21 fellowship year\)](#)
- [Common Letter of Recommendation](#)
- [Snap Shot CV](#)
- [Introduction Video Guidelines](#)
- [Skill Set Video Guidelines](#)
- [MSDO \(Mohs\) Fellowship FAQs](#)

ACGME Program Status Search

- ACGME publicly lists the Accredited, Pre-Accredited, & Withdrawn status' of MSDO programs

General Information

MSDO Fellowship Match

ACGME Program Status Search

ACGME MSDO Program Status Search

The link below will direct you to the ACGME Advanced Program Search site. On the site, click "Dermatologic Oncology", and click "Search". From there, you may click the "Accredited" drop or All Programs for ACGME-accredited MSDO programs.

[ACGME Advanced Program Search](#)

ACGME Program Status Search

Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) - Public

Advanced Program Search

or



Code	Specialty	Name	Director Last Name(s)	City
------	-----------	------	-----------------------	------

No Programs found for the input and/or selected search criteria.

ACGME, ACMS, & ACD Program Listing

General Information MSDO Fellowship Match ACGME Program Status Search **Fellowship Training Director Listing**

MSDO Fellowship Training Director Listing


[ACMS & ACGME Approved Fellowship Training Director Listing](#)

- Link to the ACGME site to pull a report of current ACGME programs
- List of international ACMS programs
- List of programs accredited by the Australasian College of Dermatologists

For the current list of programs accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Graduate Medical Education, please visit <https://apps.acgme.org/ads/Public/Reports/Report/1> and select 'Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology' as the Specialty

American College of Mohs Surgery & Australasian College of Dermatologists Programs	Approval
Paul Cherian, MD, FACMS Mount Hawthorn, WA, Australia 6016 Phone: 61-8-6140-1000 Fax: 61-8-6140-1099 Email: pcherian1@gmail.com	Australasian College of Dermatologists
Timothy G. Elliott, MD, FACMS South Perth, WA, Australia 6151 Phone: 61-8-9367-6777 Fax: 61-8-9368-0082 E-Mail: tim_elliott@inet.net.au	Australasian College of Dermatologists
Zoran Gaspar, MD Clayfield, QLD, Australia 4011 Phone: (07) 3262 8455 Fax: (07) 3262 8119	Australasian College of Dermatologists
Aton M. Holzer, MD, FACMS Tel Aviv-Yafo, Israel	ACMS

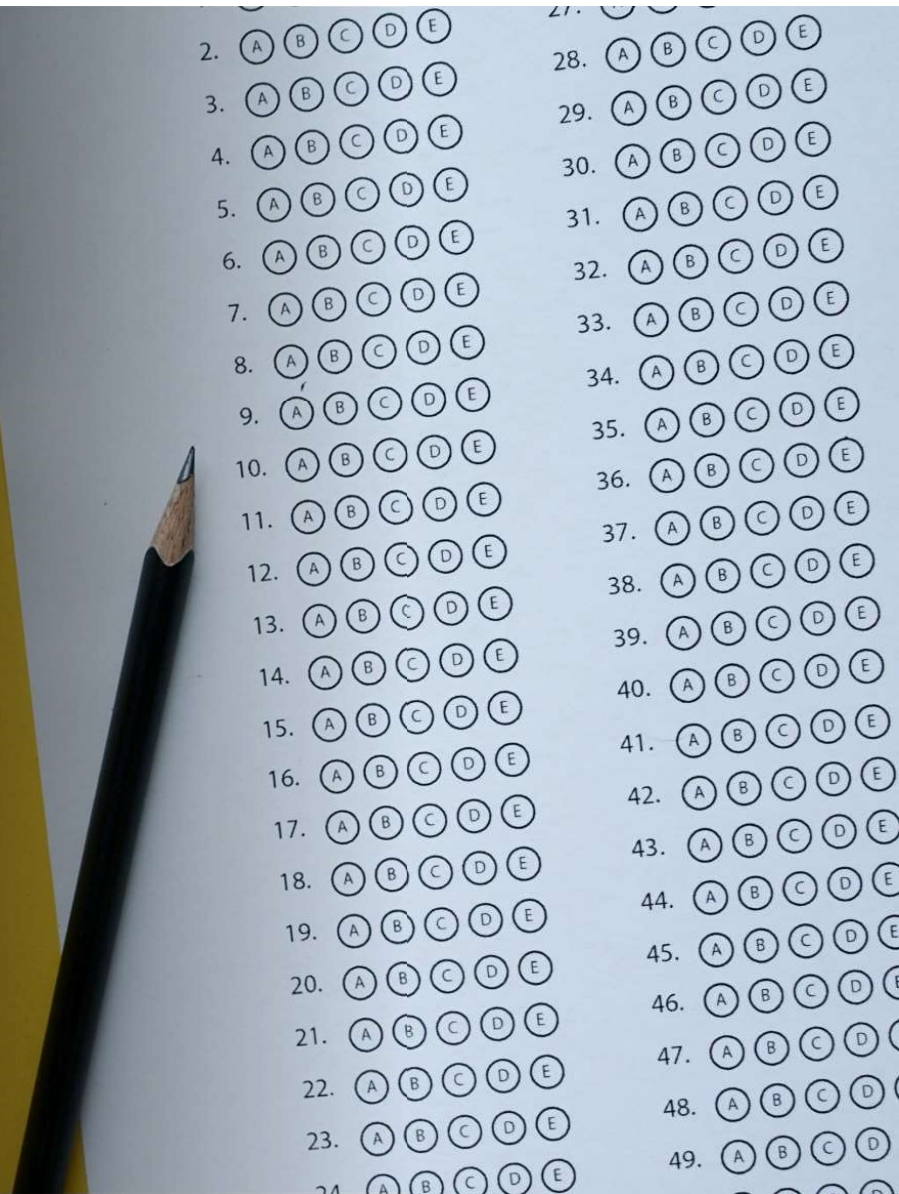
Thank you & good luck!



Signaling Snapshot CV Common Letter of Recommendation

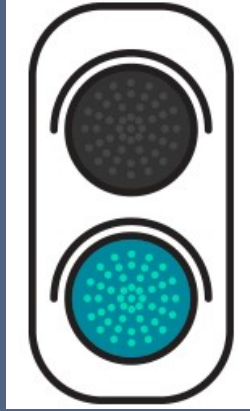
Ramona Behshad, MD

David R. Carr, MD MPH



Signaling

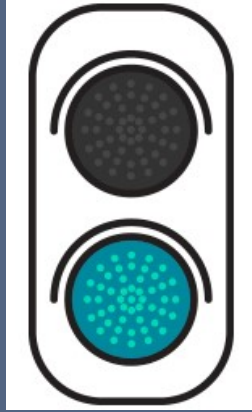
Signaling



Only ONE type of signal

Number of signals: **10**

Signaling a program does not guarantee an interview, as the decision to grant interviews is also at the discretion of each program.



Programs cannot opt-out
(can choose to ignore signals)

Applicant will signal when they are choosing the letters and documents to attach.

Once chosen and sent, there are no changes or retractions

Submitted Questions



How likely are applicants going to get an interview if they don't signal the program?

Number of tokens; Are there any preliminary results of how the token system last year worked/interviews and match outcomes?

Will there be any changes to the token system?

Snapshot CV

Please complete the “snap shot CV” below. Data for this form should be directly from your full curriculum vitae. The program directors will have access to your complete CV in the CAS application for the SF match for more in-depth details/reference. This is your opportunity to highlight experiences and accomplishments that are most high-impact and meaningful to you. You may list up to five items in each area but are not required to fill each category.
Max Length: 2 Pages

Name of Applicant:

Education: List location and years for the following education/training experiences

Undergraduate Degree:

Medical School:

Other Graduate Degrees:

Internship:

Residency:

Other post-graduate experience:

List your top 5 leadership experiences, volunteer experiences, and teaching experiences:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

List your top 5 publications, presentations, or posters:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

List your top 5 awards/accolades, extra-curricular activities, or outside interests:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

List your top 3 career related interests/goals:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Submitted Questions



Since there's a snapshot CV, how often do PDs look at full CV? besides rotations, what do you value most? Research? LORS?

CLOR

**MICROGRAPHIC SURGERY AND DERMATOLOGIC ONCOLOGY (MSDO) FELLOWSHIP
STANDARDIZED LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION**

This applicant waived her/his right to view this standardized letter Yes No

Applicant's Name: Jane Doe

SF Match #: 123

Applicant's Institution:

Your Name:

Your Signature:

Your E-mail Address:

Your Telephone Number (cell preferred):

Your present position (choose all that apply):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dermatology Department Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Dermatology Surgical Director |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MSDO Fellowship Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Dermatology Program Director |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dermatology Faculty | <input type="checkbox"/> Research Faculty |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-dermatology Faculty (Specialty:) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Private Practice physician (Specialty:) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other () | |

How long have you been practicing? years

A. Background

1. How many residents have you worked with in the past year?

- 1 2 – 4 5 – 10 >10

2. How often do you work with residents on average?

- <1 day per week
 1 - 3 days per week
 >3 days per week

3. How long have you known the applicant? months

4. What is your contact with the applicant? (Choose all that apply)

- I have not worked directly with the applicant; letter based on others' evaluations
 Limited direct surgical contact (<10 days)
 Limited direct clinical contact (<10 days)
 Limited direct research contact (<10 days)
 Extended direct surgical contact (>10 days)
 Extended direct clinical contact (>10 days)
 Extended direct research contact (>10 days)
 Direct observation writing article (case report, review article etc.)
 Surgical director

- Program director
 Advisor

SURGICAL SKILLS AND COMMITMENT TO MSDO

1. *Basic surgical skill level (able to perform excisions, perform layered closures, suturing technique).*

Meets expectations (Lower 1/3) Good (Middle 1/3) Excellent (Top 1/3) Outstanding (Top 10%) Exceptional (Top 1%)

2. *Advanced surgical skill level (advanced suturing, planning and execution of flap and graft repairs).*

Meets expectations (Lower 1/3) Good (Middle 1/3) Excellent (Top 1/3) Outstanding (Top 10%) Exceptional (Top 1%)

3. *Commitment to micrographic surgery and dermatologic oncology (i.e. has the applicant carefully thought out their career decision).*

Meets expectations (Lower 1/3) Good (Middle 1/3) Excellent (Top 1/3) Outstanding (Top 10%) Exceptional (Top 1%)

COMMUNICATION AND EFFICIENCY

1. *Ability to communicate in a caring and effective way with patients.*

Meets expectations (Lower 1/3) Good (Middle 1/3) Excellent (Top 1/3) Outstanding (Top 10%) Exceptional (Top 1%)

2. *Ability to develop and justify an appropriate differential diagnosis and cohesive treatment plan.*

Meets expectations (Lower 1/3) Good (Middle 1/3) Excellent (Top 1/3) Outstanding (Top 10%) Exceptional (Top 1%)

3. *Quality of work ethic, professional behavior, and dependability.*

Meets expectations (Lower 1/3) Good (Middle 1/3) Excellent (Top 1/3) Outstanding (Top 10%) Exceptional (Top 1%)

4. Ability to work well within multidisciplinary healthcare teams.

- Meets expectations (Lower 1/3) Good (Middle 1/3) Excellent (Top 1/3) Outstanding (Top 10%) Exceptional (Top 1%)

5. Ability to gain respect and effectively work with support staff (nurses and MAs).

- Meets expectations (Lower 1/3) Good (Middle 1/3) Excellent (Top 1/3) Outstanding (Top 10%) Exceptional (Top 1%)

6. Ability to elicit feedback and positively respond to feedback.

- Meets expectations (Lower 1/3) Good (Middle 1/3) Excellent (Top 1/3) Outstanding (Top 10%) Exceptional (Top 1%)

7. Completes documentation in a timely and detailed manner.

- Meets expectations (Lower 1/3) Good (Middle 1/3) Excellent (Top 1/3) Outstanding (Top 10%) Exceptional (Top 1%)

8. Ability to complete research endeavor with minimal coaching

- Meets expectations (Lower 1/3) Good (Middle 1/3) Excellent (Top 1/3) Outstanding (Top 10%) Exceptional (Top 1%)

GLOBAL ASSESMENT

1. *Would you like to be in a two person MSDO fellowship with this individual?*

Yes Unsure No

2. *How much guidance will this trainee likely need?*

More than average (lower 1/3) Average (Middle 1/3) Less than average (Top 1/3)

3. *What is your prediction of success of the applicant?*

Low (lower 1/3) Good (Middle 1/3) High (Top 1/3) Extremely likely (Top 5%)

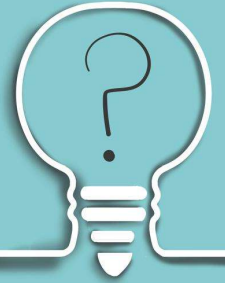
OPTIONAL: In the space below, please highlight the applicant's greatest strengths and/or their resilience and determination (250 word limit).

Who to ASK?

*All letters of recommendation must be in the CLOR format. No exceptions

- Residency surgical director (or equivalent)
- Residency program director
- Surgeon with whom applicant has spent significant time

Submitted Questions



Can you have multiple people sign one letter of recommendation?

If you are an attending, do you need a letter from a surgical director?

Can you have multiple people sign one letter of recommendation?

Match Exemption Purpose

Match Exemptions

As of October 2018, the new ACMS policy eliminates exemptions for MSDO Fellowship programs, with 2 exceptions:

- 1. applicants on active military duty, or*
- 2. international (non-Canadian) applicants*

If you will be applying for an exemption, please include/confirm:

- 1.Exemption reason
- 2.# of accredited positions in your program
- 3.# of positions in your program going through the Match
- 4.The name of the Fellow-in-Training candidate(s); Names will be kept confidential



Good Luck!

behshadr@slu.edu



MSDO Fellowship Match:

Perspective of a former *Dermatology Residency Program Director*

Melissa Pugliano-Mauro, MD

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

Former Program Director, Dermatology Residency Program

Fellowship Director, MSDO Fellowship

General tips for residency

- **Learn general dermatology--well!**
 - This knowledge base will serve you well as a Mohs surgeon. You are a dermatologist FIRST.
 - Being a good general dermatologist will positively impact your relationships with your colleagues.
 - Take care of the whole patient—not just the cancer at hand.
- **Be a good resident and co-resident.**
- **Get hands on experience with ALL dermatologic procedures.**
 - Biopsies, excisions, ED&C, lasers, cosmetics, etc.
- **Learn the art of doing procedures on patients who are awake.**
 - Comfort, empathy, conversation
- **Learn to have difficult conversations with patients.**
 - Delivery of diagnoses and discussion of management/prognosis



Mentoring the MSDO Applicant— MD, DO, International Candidates

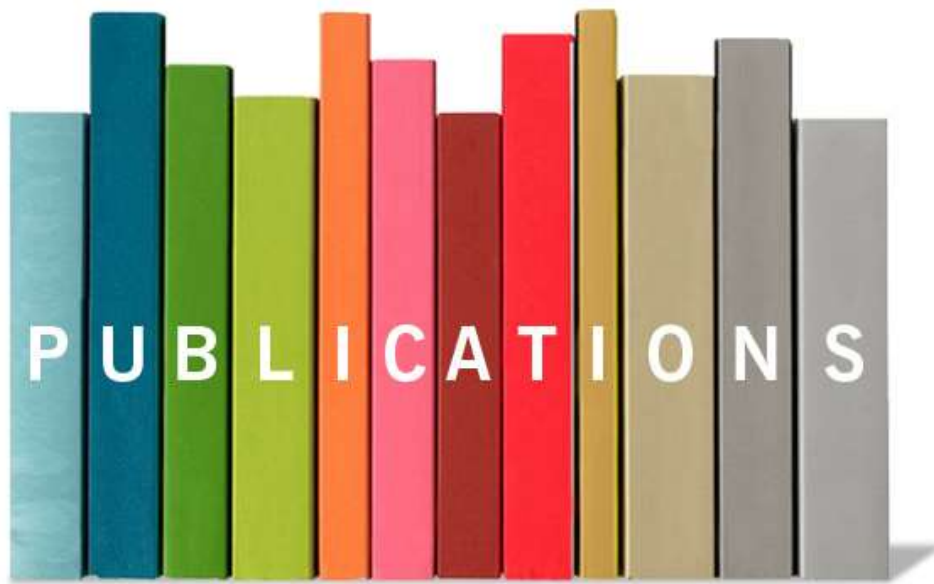
- **Find a mentor(s):**
 - Working inside and outside of your institution
 - Scholarships: WDS, ASDS
 - Community Mohs Surgeons
 - Current MSDO Fellows
- **Having more mentors opens more opportunities!**
 - These relationship can/will last a lifetime, regardless of match status.
- **Long-term projects:**
 - Find a mentor earlier in your training
- **Short-term projects:**
 - Clinical pearls for the ACMS meeting
 - Clinical conundrums for Dermatologic Surgery
 - Boards Fodder for AAD
 - Retrospective chart reviews
- **Not everything gets published, and that's okay!**
 - Your mentor(s) can speak to your ability to complete a project/follow through/reliability



What are PDs looking for in an applicant?

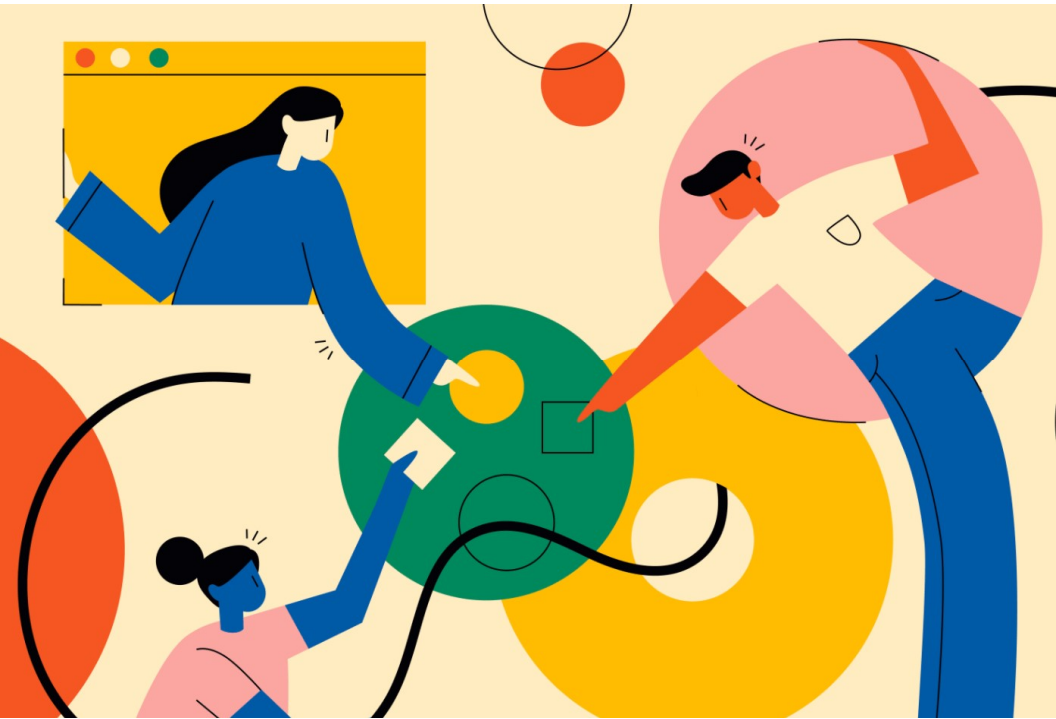


- Varies from program to program
- Publications, interpersonal skills, and life circumstances likely play a role, according to survey studies of PDs.



Publications & MSDO Fellowship Applicants

- **Academic Productivity of matched applicants to ACGME-accredited programs: Median h-index of 3**
 - Included publications unrelated to dermatology or Mohs
 - ~ Half of all total publications were first-author pieces (48.3%) -- Supports applicant-driven work
 - < 10% of successful applicants had zero publications.
 - This study may help mentors counsel mentees, and it may be a reasonable goal for applicants.
 - *Elias ML et al. Academic Productivity of Successful Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship Applicants. Dermatol Surg. 2023 Jan 1;49(1):105-106.*



Interpersonal Skills & Circumstances

- MSDO fellowship directors collectively emphasized criteria that reflect **interpersonal skills** more than objective measures of academic performance, highlighting the importance of **"fit."**
 - Positive factors:
 - Applicants from their own institution, and the applicant's personal reasons and circumstances
 - Unfavorable factors:
 - Applicant's desire to practice in the same city/area as the fellowship location, and a graduate of a foreign medical school
- *Feng H et al. Micrographic Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship Selection Criteria. Dermatol Surg. 2019*



Rotations

- **Home institution:**
 - Resident surgery clinics
 - Procedural dermatology rotations
 - Oculoplastic surgery, plastic surgery, oncology
 - Mohs rotations

Away Rotations



- How important are away rotations?
 - They are not necessary.
 - They can be helpful, especially if you don't have a home program or if a program is also considering internal candidates.
- Many factors play a role in getting an away rotation:
 - *Institutional policies, individual program preferences, limited ASDS & WDS support, and limited slots*
 - *First come, first served*
 - *Requirement for an ASDS Preceptorship, WDS Mentorship, etc.*
- Can be coordinated by reaching out to the PD's coordinator or the PD
 - **Contact information: SF Match site and the Program Website**
 - **No consensus on the length of the rotation: typically, 2-5 days**
 - **No consensus on how many away rotations: typically, 1-3**
 - **Anytime from APRIL/MAY –OCTOBER/NOVEMBER**



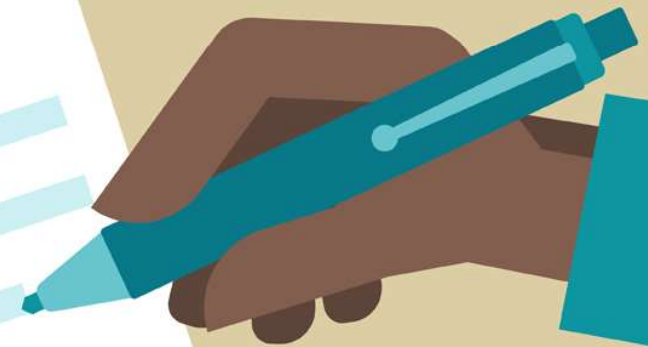
Rotations:

If you don't have a Mohs Surgeon or an MSDO Fellowship Program

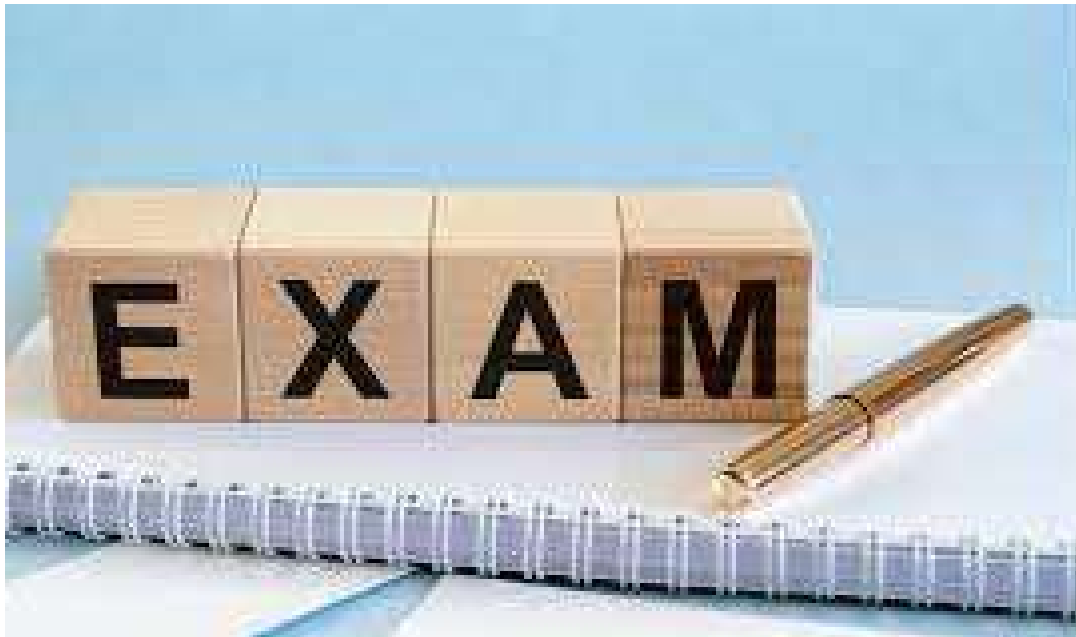
- May benefit from *away rotations or post-residency years at institutions with MSDO fellowship programs* toward becoming an internal candidate.
 - *Belzberg M, Robinson MA, Chahine A, Lim J. Applicants From Residencies With a Mohs Micrographic Surgery Fellowship Have Significantly Increased Odds of Securing a Fellowship Position. Dermatol Surg. 2024 Jun 1;50(6):584-587.*
- Reach out to PDs of programs you may be interested in:
 - Common research or clinical interest
 - Request an away rotation or start a line of communication (e-mail is fine).
 - Ask about projects you can help with or develop an idea you are interested in exploring.
 - Ask about gap year opportunities.
- Network:
 - Attend annual meetings such as ASDS & ACMS

Common Letter of Recommendation (CLOR)— “Letters of Recommendation” & Holistic Review

- Find physicians whom you know well and with whom you’ve worked closely:
 - Surgical skills and commitment to MSDO
 - Can highlight your resilience and determination—
“holistic review”
- Other components that speak to your character:
 - *Ability to work with staff/colleagues/multi-disciplinary team*
 - *Would the letter writer want to be your co-fellow???*



CORE Exams Scores & STEP 2



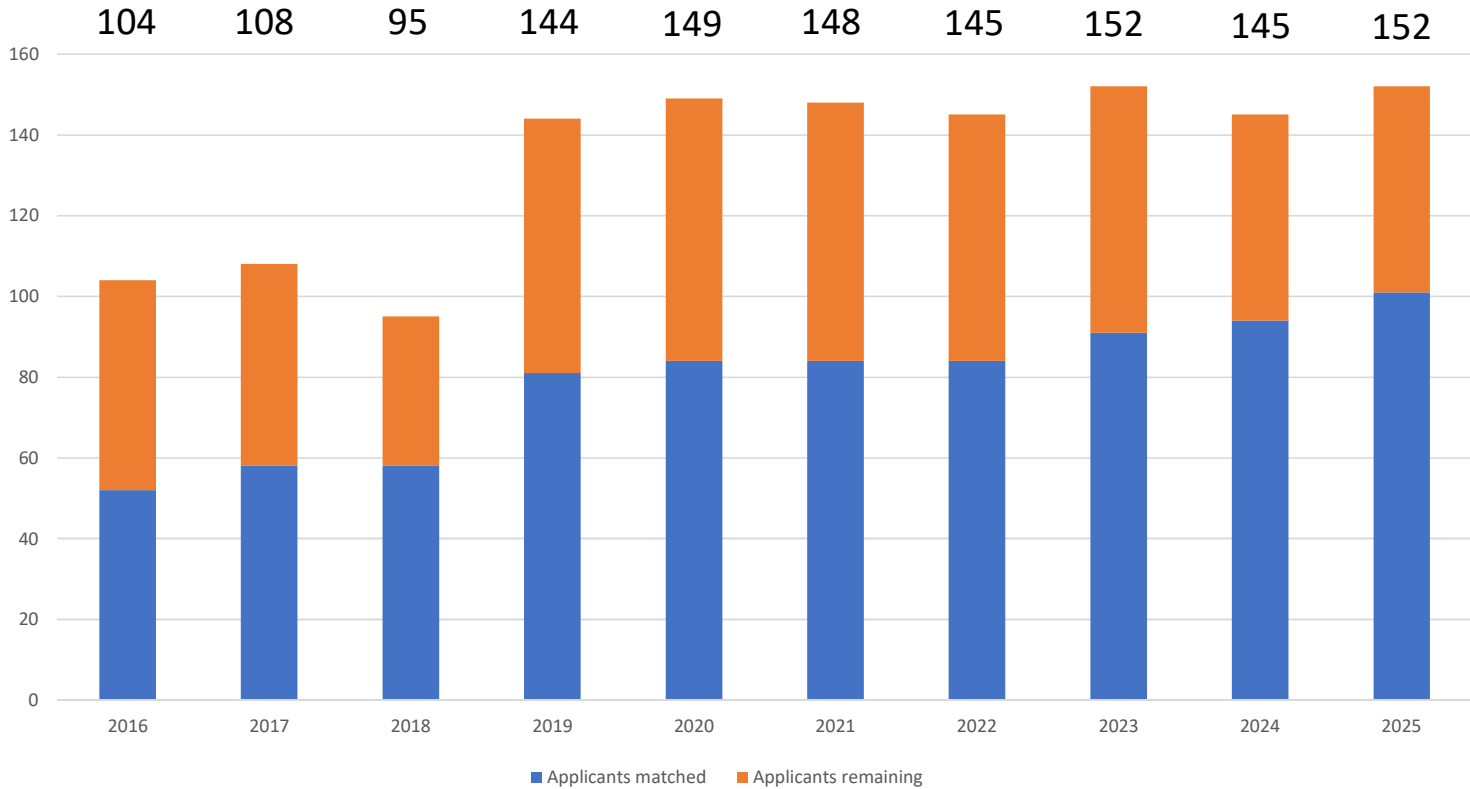
- CORE exams scores are not included of the SF Match CAS
 - These exams are learning opportunities for you in preparation for the applied board exam.
 - *You should take your surgery CORE exam when you feel ready and comfortable!*
 - Some programs have asked for these in supplemental applications
 - FTC recommends programs to do request these scores
- STEP 2 scores are not required

MSDO Fellowship Match

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Programs participating	48	53	51	70	69	71	71	75	79	83
Positions offered	53	58	58	82	84	84	84	91	96	104
Positions filled	52	58	58	81	84	83	84	91	94	101
Positions remaining	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	3
Applicants registered	117	137	121	169	180	169	158	164	153	164
Applicants participating	104	108	95	144	149	148	145	152	145	152
Applicants matched	52	58	58	81	84	84	84	91	94	101
Applicants remaining	52	50	37	63	65	64	61	61	51	51

Micrographic Surgery & Dermatologic Oncology Fellowship Match

Applicants Participating →





Have a backup plan

✓ Re-apply:

- The following year:
 - **Work at an academic institution and contribute to the surgical program/do research**
- After practicing for a couple of years:
 - **Have a solid reason for wanting to incorporate/change to Mohs**
 - *Perhaps you want to bring Mohs to an underserved community.*
 - *There is a need for Mohs in your current practice.*
 - *You are working at a VA where you would love to bring Mohs to this patient population.*

✓ Find a job:

- Many general dermatology positions incorporate surgical dermatology.
- December/January is not too late to find a job!
 - You may want to start looking earlier so you can “hit the ground running” should you need to implement “Plan B”
- **Be open and honest about not matching if you are asked when interviewing!**



Non-traditional Applicants:

Re-applying after not matching

Practicing general dermatology for a couple of years

- I know no statistics regarding the odds of matching as a non-traditional applicant.
- **Applicants re-applying for Mohs:**
 - No data to show what the next best step is before re-application.
 - No data to guide what you can do to increase your odds of matching the second time.
 - *Tips:*
 - *Work at an academic institution and contribute to the surgical program*
 - *Find a mentor if you do not already have one*
 - *Do research*
 - *Network*
- **Applicants applying for Mohs after practicing general dermatology:**
 - Have a solid reason for wanting to incorporate/change to Mohs
 - *Perhaps you want to bring Mohs to an underserved community.*
 - *Mohs is needed in your current practice.*
 - *You are working at a VA where you would love to bring Mohs to this patient population.*

If I was a resident applying for Mohs fellowship now, I would focus on...

- ✓ Completing any projects that I have started
- ✓ Getting hands-on experience with suturing/surgical procedures, should I need to provide a video for any of my applications
- ✓ Making sure my letter writers know me well and can write about qualities that set me apart...not just my surgical skills
- ✓ Being a good co-resident and leader in your program



thank
you

Questions



Navigating the Virtual Interview

S. Brian Jiang, MD, FACMS
Professor of Clinical Dermatology
MSDO Fellowship Director
University of California San Diego

Tips for Virtual Interviews

- Compilation of tips from previous presentations and information from *J Grad Med Educ* (2020) 12 (6): 671–673 and Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) website
- Virtual interviews require the same professionalism as in-person interviews, with added attention to technology and environment
- Most have both Live and On-Demand components
- Expect hybrid formats: some programs may require a brief in-person visit after virtual screening

What Programs Look For

- Professionalism and communication
- Situational judgment
- Maturity and self-awareness
- Fit with program culture
- Ability to articulate goals

Preparation

- Review information about the program and faculty
- Prep for common questions: career path related, behavioral, and situational
 - ✓ Identify sample experiences that demonstrate your knowledge and skill:
leadership, conflict, mistake, teamwork, resilience
- Prepare thoughtful questions for the interviewers/Review the program and faculty
- Find a suitable interview environment and confirm you have appropriate technology
 - Check microphone, camera position
 - Check internet speed and use a wired Ethernet if possible for stability
 - Practice looking at the camera and not the screen
 - Record yourself (avoid distractions: shaking, fidgeting, biting nails)

Set Up

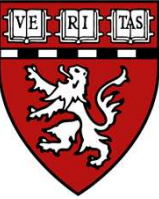
- Dress professionally and be early/Avoid AI-generated backgrounds or filters
- Allow time for a technology check (confirm platform is updated)
 - Shut down all programs: Quit nonessential apps
 - Make sure the device is fully charged or plugged in
- Have a backup plan in case the technology fails
- Use a light source in front of you and test lighting at the same time of day as your interview
- Backdrop should be neat and clean or neutral color wall
- Position the camera at eye level and your chair for mid-chest framing
- Limit distractions

Interview Day(s)

- Different formats: multiple days or single day
- Interviews with key people in 20 minute intervals
- Provide detailed examples of behavior and avoid speaking in generalities
- Smile, relax and show your personality
- Treat all interviewers with same degree of respect including current fellows/nursing/support staff
- Some program directors follow-up may include:
 - ✓ On-site interview or
 - ✓ Supplemental video of surgical technique
- Follow up: consider email or thank you card. Do not over-communicate

Thank you and good luck!

- The virtual interview is a two-way street to explore fit
- Ask questions (prepare them ahead of time)
- The APD and ACMS Fellowship Training Committee is here to support you!



MSDO Application Fellow Perspective

Ajay N. Sharma, MD, MBA

Micrographic Surgery and Dermatologic Oncology Fellow
Massachusetts General Hospital

Preparation

- **Create a calendar**
 - June/July can be overwhelming with your Chief year, preparing your application, and Core exams
 - Consider surgical core exam early
- **Touch base with your co-residents and PDs**
 - Interviews may come last-minute and frequently
 - Vacation will be used
- **Determine your shortlist**
 - Focus your efforts with research and networking on your highest yield programs
 - Reach out to Mohs surgeons in your community

Networking

- Away Rotations
 - Reach out Jan - Mar for April – November
 - 1 day to 1 week, all is useful
 - More about fit, less about knowledge
 - Funding through ASDS, WDS, institutional grants
- Conferences
 - Submit early and often, both for abstracts and scholarships
 - Big 3: AAD, ACMS, ASDS
 - Follow your shortlist
 - Scheduling ahead is helpful, but not mandatory

Application – Primary (SFMatch)

- Signals (10)
 - Consider where your LORs have connections
- LOR (3)
 - Residency PD, Fellowship PD, Your Choice
 - Application not complete until these are uploaded
- Primary
 - Cannot fill out SFMatch before it opens, so prepare your files as much as possible
 - Takes around a week to complete once opened, first secondaries not until August
 - Consider customizing your personal statements

Application - Secondary

- Surgical Videos
 - Preparation and organization are key
 - Unlikely to repeat videos
 - Materials: gloves, surgical marker, surgical towels, surgical instruments, large caliber sutures, pigs feet
- Secondary Applications
 - Check program websites in addition to SF Match
 - 2 weeks soft deadline
- Q&A Sessions
 - Professionalism
 - Save contact information

Interviews

- Preparation
 - Learn as much as you can about the program PRIOR to the interview (lectures, research, past fellows)
 - Predict the common questions (where do you see your career heading, describe a difficult case)
 - Interviews: September (20%), October (40%), November (40%)
- In-Person Interviews (33%)
 - Every person you meet has a say (be polite and responsive)
 - Take notes for your own learning (chances are, this is the last time you will ever see the practice)
- Virtual Interviews (66%)
 - Set email alerts to your phone and sign up early
 - Confirm your interview platform (Zoom, Teams, SFMatch)
 - Interviewing during clinic hours is understandable
- Thank You Notes
 - Card > Email but promptness is most important

Building Rank List

- Most of your questions will arise after completing all your interviews (current/past fellows, residents)
- Prioritize YOUR Factors
 - Future Practice
 - Academic? Private? High Volume? Research Heavy?
 - Core Faculty
 - How many surgeons? What are their interests?
 - Autonomy
 - Primary surgeon? Repairs referred out?
 - Case Load/Complexity
 - Cases logged per year? IHC? Rare Tumors?
 - Customizability
 - Clinics aside from Mohs? Cosmetics, OR, research time?
 - Location/Prestige
 - It's only one year, but it's still one year

Submitting Your List

- Be systematic
 - Review your notes from interview days and reach out to your connections for last minute questions
 - Compare like for like
- Express interest early
 - Let the program know (whenever you decide)
 - Utilize your mentors
- Trust the process
 - Sleep well at night!

Final Thoughts

- Be a great resident, everyone has a say
- Your best chances of matching are your home programs or your in-person experiences
- Trust primary sources of information only
- Determine your own priorities
- Be kind to yourself

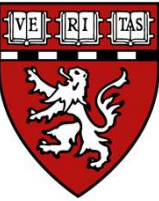
and remember...

Final Thoughts

- Be a great resident, everyone has a say
- Your best chances of matching are your home programs or your in-person experiences
- Trust primary sources of information only
- Determine your own priorities
- Be kind to yourself

and remember...

**The best fellowship
is the one you match into!**



Good Luck!!!



ajayderm@gmail.com

Questions?

Email info@mohscollege.org

Thank you to our Moderators & Panelists

Ramona Behshad, MD, FACMS

Nkanyezi Ferguson, MD, FACMS

S. Brian Jiang, MD, FACMS

Susan Lathrop, CAE

Melissa Pugliano-Mauro, MD, FACMS

Ajay N. Sharma, MD

Divya Srivastava, MD, FACMS

Dennis Thomatos

Thank you to APD & ACMS Staff