What is ERAS?
The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) developed ERAS—the Electronic Residency Application Service, to transmit residency applications, letters of recommendation, MSPEs, transcripts, and other supporting credentials from applicants and medical schools to residency program directors using the Internet.

How does ERAS work?
The ERAS service is made up of four components: MyERAS—the applicant Web site, the Dean’s Office Workstation (DWS), the Program Director’s Workstation (PDWS), and the ERAS PostOffice (ERASPO). Using a secure Web browser, applicants complete an application form, select programs, and create and assign supporting documents. They then submit these files to the ERASPO for delivery to programs. School staff use the DWS to scan and store the applicant’s transcripts, MSPEs and letters of recommendation and transmit them to the ERASPO. Residency programs use the PDWS to connect to the ERASPO to download applications, and to review them using criteria they establish.

Which specialties will use ERAS this year?
Most PGY1 specialties, including the Army and Navy, will use ERAS 2008 to receive their applications. A list of participating programs will be available on MyERAS and on the ERAS Web site in late-June at www.aamc.org/eras in the Participating Specialties area of the Residency Applicants section. Applicants should contact programs directly to confirm their participation.

How do I get started?
Contact your designated dean’s office. They will provide you with instructions for processing applications via ERAS.

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<th>Applicant Type</th>
<th>Designated Dean’s Office</th>
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<td>Canadian</td>
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* Email carmsmail@carms.ca
+ Go to www.ecfmg.org/eras for more information
° Military applicants should also consult with their military counselor for special instructions

When can I get started?
ERAS instructions and your electronic token to access MyERAS will be distributed from your designated dean’s office in late June. MyERAS will be available for you to begin working on your application on July 1, 2007. You may begin applying to residency programs September 1, 2007.

Give yourself enough time to complete your application to ensure program deadlines are met. Contact programs to ensure you meet all program requirements.

What will my school do?
Your school (or designated dean’s office) will establish processing procedures for ERAS and the schedule for distributing MyERAS information. They will also process supporting application documents which include scanning transcripts, attaching documents, processing letters of recommendation, and sending files to selected programs via the ERASPO. Student affairs staff can also help you with career planning and targeting appropriate programs to apply to via ERAS.

When is the deadline to apply to programs?
ERAS does not establish deadlines for programs. Individual programs set deadlines. Contact the programs directly for more information about their requirements and deadlines.

I don’t have a computer at home. How can I apply?
You can use ANY computer with an Internet connection. The computer must have Internet Explorer Version 6.0 or higher. A valid e-mail address is also required so programs can contact you.

How do I apply to programs not participating in ERAS?
Contact the program directly for their application requirements. You cannot use ERAS to apply to a program that is not available on the MyERAS Web site.

How much does ERAS cost?
ERAS processing fees are based on the number of programs to which you apply. ERAS fees are: $60 initial application fee (includes up to 10 programs); $8 each for 11-20 programs; $15 each for 21-30 programs; and $25 each for program(s) over 30.

Applicants who request USMLE and/or COMLEX transcripts via ERAS pay a $50 fee each to the NBME and/or NBOME for an unlimited number of electronic transcripts.

What is the ERAS Integrity Promotion Program?
ERAS has launched an education program to encourage integrity in the process of applying to training programs and to promote high standards in those applying for these positions. Examples of possible infractions and the consequences of a positive finding are outlined in the Residency Applicants section of the ERAS Web site at www.aamc.org/eras and click on ERAS Policies.