Survey of Orthopaedic Applicants

Obtaining orthopaedic residency is extremely competitive with approximately 1 in 3 orthopaedic applicants left unmatched over the last several years. For these unmatched applicants, the new application cycle is a perplexing and challenging period with many new issues and decisions that the applicant must address. We aim to better guide these applicants by trying to investigate the outcomes of unmatched applicants and better understand the measures that a reapplicant can take.

All responses are sent anonymously through this survey and will remain anonymous.

Survey should take 3-5 minutes MAXIMUM to complete and is only this 1 page. Press TAB to quickly move to the next response field.

We thank you greatly for your time. Please answer as accurately as possible.

Did you apply for orthopaedic surgery last year (2017-2018 cycle) and did not match into orthopaedics?
☐ Yes  ☐ No

Did you match into orthopaedic surgery this year (2018-2019 cycle)?
☐ Yes  ☐ No

The following questions refer to the FIRST unmatched cycle:

Did you do a dedicated research year prior to your first application for orthopaedic residency?
☐ Yes  ☐ No

How many away rotations/orthopaedic subinternships did you do in this first application cycle? (give numerical answer)

In the first cycle, how many total publications did you have as defined by ERAS? (give numerical answer)

In the first cycle, how many programs did you apply to? (give numerical answer)

In the first cycle, how many interviews were you offered? (give numerical answer)

In the first cycle, how many interviews did you go to? (give numerical answer)

In the first cycle, how many programs did you RANK? (give numerical answer)

In the first cycle, were you interviewed by your home program?
What was the number of orthopaedic applicants in your class during this first cycle? (give numerical answer)

After going unmatched, did you defer your medical school graduation?

Did you apply for another specialty concurrently with orthopaedics through ERAS?

During this first cycle, did you enter the scramble (SOAP)? *

Did you apply for the orthopaedic match 3 or more times?

The following questions pertain to this recent cycle (2018-2019):

After going unmatched, what did you do during this past year? *

I would recommend a research year to someone who did not match

Strongly Disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree
I would recommend a surgical intern year to someone who did not match.

Why did you respond this way?

How many away rotations did you do this recent cycle? (give numerical answer)

How many total publications [as defined by ERAS] did you have for this recent application cycle? (give numerical answer)

Did you use new letters of recommendation after going unmatched?
- Yes
- Some
- No

Did you change your personal statement at all after going unmatched?
- Yes
- No

Did you mention not matching in your personal statement?
- Yes
- No

Did you mention not matching in any of your interviews?
- Yes
- Some
- No

In this recent cycle, how many programs did you apply to? (give numerical answer)

In this recent cycle, how many interviews were you offered? (give numerical answer)

In this recent cycle, how many interviews did you go to? (give numerical answer)

In this recent cycle, how many programs did you RANK? (give numerical answer)

In this recent cycle, were you interviewed by your home program?
- Yes
- No

How many of these interviews were schools that interviewed you during the first cycle? (give numerical answer)

Did you now match into orthopaedics this recent cycle?
- Yes
- No
What was the number of orthopaedic applicants in your class during the subsequent cycle? (give numerical answer)

General questions:

Did you retake Step 1, Step 2CK, or both?
☐ Step 1 only  ☐ Step 2CK only  ☐ Step 1 and 2CK
☐ N/A (did not retake either one)

Did you attend an interview prep workshop prior to your application for residency?
☐ Yes, only during unsuccessful cycle
☐ Yes, only during successful cycle
☐ Yes, for both cycles
☐ I did not attend an interview prep workshop

Subject demographics (confidential):

Are you a graduate from a medical school in the USA? *
☐ Yes
☐ No

Gender
☐ Male
☐ Female

Geographic location of medical school
☐ West coast  ☐ Mid-west  ☐ East coast  ☐ South
☐ Other

Geographic location of residency (if successfully matched into orthopaedics)
☐ West coast  ☐ Mid-west  ☐ East coast  ☐ South
☐ Other

Geographic location of home (family, loved ones)
☐ West coast  ☐ Mid-west  ☐ East coast  ☐ South
☐ Other

Age (at first application cycle)

Step 1 Score

Step 2CK Score
AOA membership

- Yes
- No
- N/A (school does not have AOA)

What is your medical school currently ranked, according to US News? See rankings here: [US News Rankings](#)

Clerkship year grades (please choose answers closest to your own institution’s grading scale)

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Orthopaedic sub-internship grades (including both home and away rotations)

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