



Postdoctoral Application Process Streamlined Through ADEA PASS and National Matching Services, Inc. Partnership

This May students applying to postdoctoral dental residency programs will find a new, streamlined system in place through the ADEA Postdoctoral Application Support Service (ADEA PASS) website. The American Dental Education Association (ADEA) and National Matching Services, Inc. (NMS) have partnered to provide a single access point for students applying to both services.

Prior to the new system, candidates needing the two services were required to visit both ADEA PASS and NMS websites, enter similar information, and pay fees separately. Now the two popular providers have combined efforts to enable applicants to enter all necessary data at the ADEA PASS site, select one or both services, and submit and pay through ADEA. Data will flow to NMS for all applicants who select the Dental Match (Match) from the services menu, and ADEA will transmit the appropriate fees to NMS.

“This system makes it clearer and more efficient for students to use both services. In the past students were entering the same content, and they always asked ‘Why am I doing this twice?’” said Peter Storandt, ADEA PASS Director of Marketing and Program Development. “Now when I conduct ADEA PASS workshops at dental schools, students light up when they hear the application process has been combined.”

Storandt worked with Mr. Elliott Peranson, NMS President, and Liaison International, ADEA’s application software provider, for three years to develop a system that would allow the organizations to share data and improve the services offered to students. Most postdoctoral programs in general dentistry, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, and oral and maxillofacial surgery currently utilize ADEA PASS and the Match, and about two-thirds of all ADEA PASS applicants participate in the Match.

“The pleasure of it has been how easy it has been to work together. It was really about joining forces for the convenience of applicants,” said Storandt.

The Postdoctoral Dental Matching Program was initially developed and organized in 1985 by the Committee on Residency Education and Training of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS) to fill positions in oral and maxillofacial surgery (OMS) residencies. Shortly after its introduction for OMS programs, General Practice Residency and Advanced Education in General Dentistry programs joined the Match, and the Match now includes Pediatric Dentistry and Orthodontic programs.

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Students interested in using both services apply through ADEA PASS and are placed by NMS. Students rank their top program choices when they apply through NMS, which is a binding transaction. Matches are made based on students' and programs' preferences, allowing them to come together on mutual interests and leveling the playing field in a highly competitive environment.

Currently, there are 560 postdoctoral programs (out of 700 total) using the ADEA PASS application service. Students can use the ADEA PASS portal to apply to both PASS and the Match or just one service. Applicants for the Match only, who do not need to use PASS, will register for the Match through the ADEA PASS applicant portal, but will not be required to complete PASS applications to submit their information and payment.

The ADEA PASS portal opens May 15. For more information, [click here](#).