

# What Medical Students\* Told the AAFP About the 2021 Match



# Family medicine had its largest match in history.



\*AAFP student members who applied to family medicine residencies and responded to an AAFP survey after the 2021 National Resident Matching Program. 9% Matched

Matched into one of their top 3 residency programs

#### What students said



felt their class had more anxiety about the Match than previous classes due to pandemic impacts.

56%

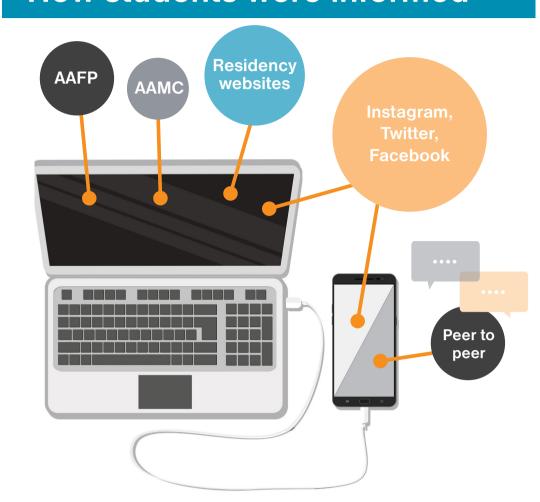
were **uncertain** about how their application would be evaluated.

35%

felt it was **difficult to stand out** as an applicant.

Most students said they applied to more programs than they would have if recruitment had been in-person.

#### How students were informed

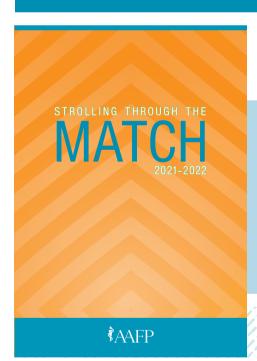


#### What did virtual interviews look like?



- > Format was typically multiple interviews with a single program scheduled on a single day
- > Students said it was a casual meeting environment with program representatives
- > Interview format was communicated clearly and timely to students
- > Lack of travel and similar interview formats made it difficult to differentiate programs
- > Students were mixed about whether they could represent themselves better virtually or in-person
- > 3 out of 4 students traveled to the community of the program they matched to
- Most students would recommend both virtual and in-person interviews in the future

### **Strolling Through the Match**



This comprehensive guide was one of the most popular resources used by students.

94%

Agreed information was easy to find

84%

Said it had information not readily available elsewhere

## **AAFP Takeaway**

Listening to our **student members** is vital to understanding how we can **help future classes** of students **successfully match** in family medicine.

#### What the AAFP is doing to help



Bringing the student voice to decisions about future residency recruitment processes



Producing
webinars and events
to provide guidance
to students



Enhancing Strolling
Through the Match
and web resources
with guidance on
virtual interviews,
SOAP, and high-need
content areas



Publishing specific data and guidance to help students find the right programs



Supporting and guiding medical student advisors and sharing insights from our student members