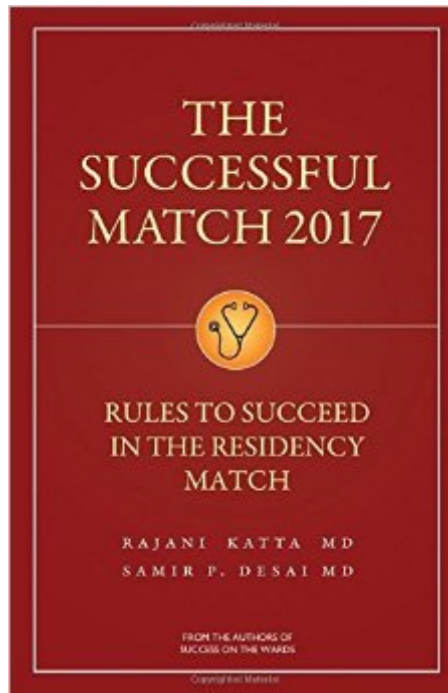


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# The Successful Match 2017: Rules For Success In The Residency Match



## Synopsis

Over 42,000 applicants registered for the 2016 NRMP Match, making it the largest Match on record. Competition is intense, and some applicants are unsuccessful. In competitive fields such as general surgery, dermatology, plastic surgery, and orthopedic surgery, over 25% of U.S. senior allopathic applicants failed to match. The numbers are significantly worse for osteopathic and international medical graduates (IMGs). As an applicant, your goal is to match into your preferred specialty, and ideally your preferred program. The evidence indicates that it has never been more difficult to reach these goals. Over a decade ago, in response to an anticipated physician manpower shortage, allopathic and osteopathic medical schools increased student enrollment. New schools were also established. However, the number of residency positions has not risen at a commensurate level. As more and more graduates have entered the Match, the competition for available residency positions has intensified. What does it take to match successfully in such a fiercely competitive environment? The first edition of this book was published in 2009, and while the core strategies for a successful match remain the same, some important changes have occurred. The most relevant is that the competition is more intense. This has translated to applicants applying more widely and extensively than ever before. The larger number of applications means more challenges for programs. Programs are finding it difficult to reduce this large group of applicants into a smaller, more manageable number who will receive interview invitations. With increased competition, it has become even more important to ensure that your application stands out from the hundreds or even thousands of applications that your dream program has received. What does it take to achieve a successful match? It takes the right strategy. In the 600 plus pages of this book, we answer the question of what it takes to match successfully. As with our previous edition, we provide specific evidence-based advice to maximize your chances of a successful match. Inside: Interviews with program directors and data from the recent literature reveal what programs value in the personal statement. Use this knowledge to develop a powerful and compelling personal statement. With 86% of programs citing LORs as a factor in selecting applicants to interview, it's critical that you have the best possible letters written on your behalf. Our resource will show you how to partner with your letter writers to achieve this goal. Audition electives are very important in many specialties. We review what factors to consider when choosing an elective and describe how to deliver an outstanding performance. The interview is the most important factor in the residency selection process. Our expanded interview section spanning 6 chapters will leave you thoroughly prepared, and ready to impress on the interview day. Our chapter "Interview Questions" will show you how to develop stand-out responses to commonly asked questions. Discover powerful techniques to

make favorable impressions during the traditional, behavioral, panel, conversational, and stress interview. Dedicated chapters to osteopathic (including AOA Match), U.S. citizen IMGs, and non-U.S. citizen IMGs present specific challenges for each group of applicants, and how to overcome these obstacles. The Chapter "Couples Match" covers major errors which lead to suboptimal match outcomes, and shows you how to avoid them. Nearly 200 pages of incredibly detailed Specialty-Specific Information will allow you develop a success strategy for multiple specialties until your specialty choice becomes clear. Featuring discussion of these issues and more, this book will provide you with specific, concrete recommendations that will maximize your chances of achieving the ultimate goal: that of a successful match.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

As a residency applicant who will be applying this year, I bought four books for residency but was most impressed by this book. Unlike the others, this book doesn't waste pages telling you general information which can easily be found on the AAMC website. Instead, it provides specific information, such as where applicants can easily make mistakes, and great tips on how to approach letter writers to request letters of recommendation. Some of the other books I bought also contain related sections, but I believe it's the specifics in this book that count, compared to the general statements that I found in the other books. When I read this book, there were often "wow" moments which made me regret not having had this book earlier. The book also cites lots of literature and even provides abstracts for important studies, which I find very useful. I highly recommend the book to students who enter their clinical years. It's even better if you can read it before the clinical years

rather than at the last moment when you're about to turn in the residency application. If you have more time to put the principles of this book into action, you will be a much stronger applicant. In Taiwan, the book has a nickname, "the little red book." My seniors often refer to the book as the Bible for residency application preparation, and after reading it from cover to cover, I totally agree it's fantastic.

The osteopathic chapter in this book provides step-by-step details of the process of getting a residency for a D.O. student for both D.O. and M.D. residency programs. Any questions that I have about the matching process and how to make myself a more attractive candidate are answered in this book. I found a break down of each speciality (family medicine, ENT, Radiology, General Surgery, etc.) and what exactly I need to do as an osteopathic student to match into that residency. There was also direct information from program directors of both allopathic and osteopathic programs and what they are looking for from D.O. candidates. This book gives students an insider perspective of how to pursue the residency of their choice and put themselves in the most appealing light to advance their careers.

[TITLE] The Successful Match 2017 Rules to succeed in the Residency Match | AUTHORS | Baylor College of Medicine Professor Rajani Katta M.D. & Baylor College of Medicine Professor Samir P. Desai M.D., M.A.C.P. & desai@bcm.edu | BOOK RATING | FIVE STAR \*\*\*\*\* | Copyright | 2017, 2009 soft cover, 621 pages, MD2B Houston, Texas | REVIEWER | Josh Grossman, Colonel U.S. Army Medical Corps, M.D., FACP & Formerly Chief of Medicine 121st Evacuation Hospital APO SF 96220 & Formerly Commanding Officer 548th General Dispensary APO SF 96301 & Member of our Tennessee Medical Association (Rural "Appalachia") Our T.M.A. & & I would be true for there are those that trust me & I would be pure for there are those that care & I would be strong for there is much to suffer & I will be brave for there is much to dare! • Howard A. Walter & Life is Either a Daring Adventure or Nothing! • Helen Keller Professor(s) Katta and Desai here provide an outstanding text for our Residency Applicants in need of a clear, complete, concise, and reasonable pathway to and for a training program that will develop them into outstanding providers of both Patient Care and Patient Centered Care. This text is recommended for ALL of our Medical Students to read and to discuss with their MENTORS. I plan to keep my copy handy on my desk for MENTORING students. & Bravo Professor Rajani Katta M.D! & Bravo Professor Samir Desai M.D!

Much more than just a book, The Successful Match 2017 is like having your own mentor with you at all times. The book excels in giving you action plans for every aspect of the residency application process. From letters of recommendation to the personal statement, it covers everything you can imagine and does so in great depth. There are many Tips and Did You Know boxes throughout the book, and these bits of information are pure gold. The emphasis is on helping applicants stand out, and it's obvious that the authors have researched these areas extensively. They share their own experiences as advisors, and their advice is well informed and based on years of service on residency selection committees. Quotes and interviews with program directors are included throughout this book, and the literature on residency selection is well referenced. In medical school, there are some books which you must simply have, and this is most definitely one of them.

This book is an excellent breakdown of what it takes to get into residency. It breaks it down by specialty, which I found very helpful. I also appreciate how there are statistics cited for each chapter.

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