

(MAY 2026)

Second Iteration and Post-match Process Information Guide



Table of contents

Contents

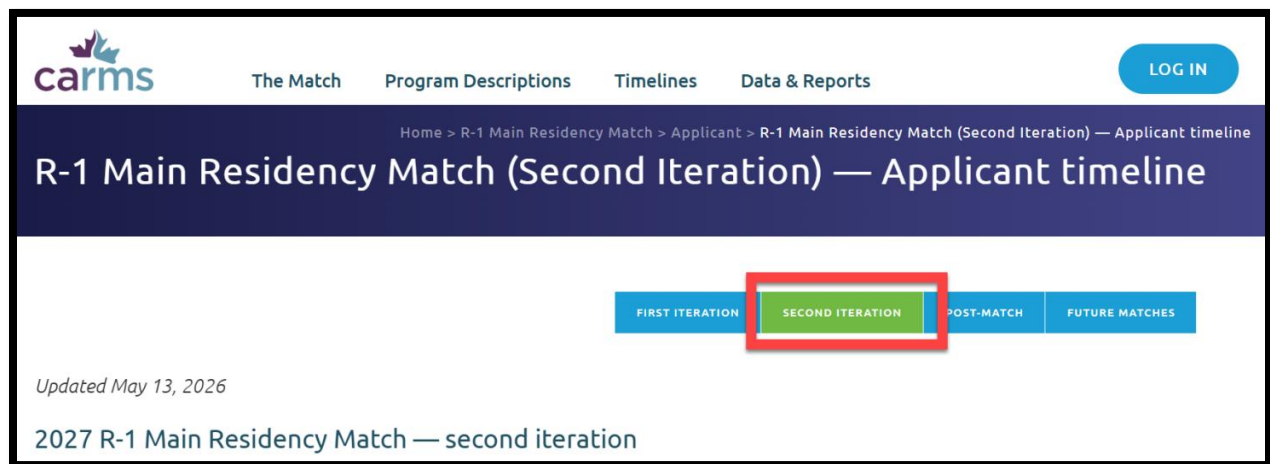
Second iteration	3
Program Descriptions	3
Program Participation	5
Program Quota	6
File Review Period and Reversions	6
Interview Period.....	6
Ranking Period.....	6
Match Results	7
Post-match process (PMP)	7
Program participation	8
Program quota	8
Application streams	9
Program descriptions.....	9
Application submission and selection.....	10
How to notify CaRMS once you have filled your positions	10
Additional resources.....	11

Second iteration

The second iteration is a repetition of the match process using the unfilled positions from the first iteration. Two matches have a second iteration, namely:

- R-1 Main Residency Match; and
- Fall Subspecialty Residency Match (FSRM).

The second iteration follows the same structure as the first iteration but is on a compressed [timeline](#).



As a program, what are my contractual obligations within the match?

Program Descriptions

Once the first iteration is complete, program descriptions will become available to your program for the second iteration. If you need to make any changes to your [program description](#), log into CaRMS Online, update the description and submit it to your PGME Office for approval by the deadline on the match [timeline](#).



Your program must abide by the AFMC-approved timeline, as programs cannot alter program descriptions once the approval deadline has passed and CaRMS Online has opened for applicants. Program requirements added after the deadline can adversely affect an applicant's application and may lead to a [match violation claim](#).

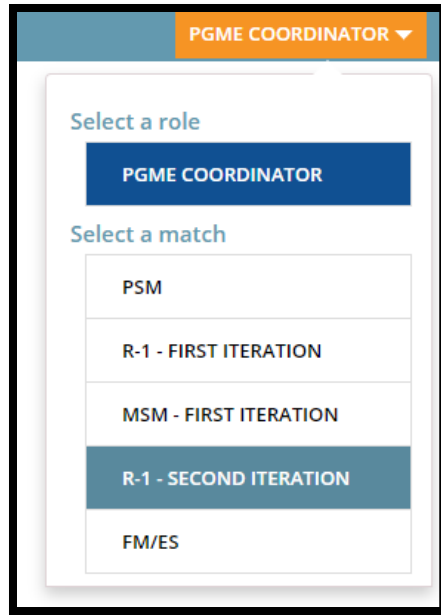
However, should you require updates such as spelling corrections or the addition of missing words to an approved program description after the deadline has passed, the change must be made by the PGME Office.

The following table outlines what sections can and cannot be edited within your program description in the second iteration as well as who can make these edits.

R-1 Main Residency Match and Fall Subspecialty Residency Match (FSRM) SECOND ITERATION			
Section	PROGRAM USERS: Program Director Program Administrator	PGME OFFICE: Postgraduate Dean PGME Coordinator Match Coordinator	Cannot be modified
Program Contact	●	●	
Important Information	●	●	
Review Process	●	●	
Interviews	●	●	
Selection Criteria	●	●	
Additional Information	●	●	
Examinations	●	●	
Reference Documents	●	●	
Additional Documents	●	●	
Return of Service		●	
Citizenship		●	
Language Proficiency		●	
General Instructions			●
Program Highlights			●
Program Curriculum			●
Training Sites			●
FAQs			●

CaRMS will automatically update the **Review Process** section in all program descriptions to reflect that applications and supporting documents submitted after file review begins will NOT be considered. However, this section can still be updated should your program choose to still accept applications after file review has begun.

To update your program description for the second iteration, ensure you select the correct match iteration by selecting **your role (if you have multiple roles), and then second iteration** at the top right of your screen once logged into CaRMS Online.



PGME COORDINATOR ▼

Select a role

PGME COORDINATOR

Select a match

PSM

R-1 - FIRST ITERATION

MSM - FIRST ITERATION

R-1 - SECOND ITERATION

FM/ES

Program Participation

R-1 Main Residency Match

All programs with unfilled positions after the first iteration are required to participate in the second iteration. These programs are automatically transferred over to the second iteration and 'participated' on your behalf by CaRMS.

Prior to the program transfer, CaRMS reviews the [provincial eligibility criteria](#) to determine what application stream changes are required for the second iteration (i.e., does the stream become competitive) and updates the application stream accordingly.

Once your program has been transferred and participated into the second iteration, you are unable to unparticipate it from the second iteration.

- [What are all the different application streams in the R-1 Match?](#)

Fall Subspecialty Residency Match (FSRM)

Programs with unfilled positions are moved over to second iteration by CaRMS on your behalf. It is then at the discretion of the PGME Office as to which programs they wish to participate in the second iteration.

For step-by-step instructions on how to participate a program, refer to the [Program Participation and Quota Information Guide](#).

- [What are all the different application streams in the subspecialty matches?](#)



Program Quota

R-1 Main Residency Match

In the second iteration, your program quota is populated by CaRMS using the unfilled number of positions from the first iteration. The PGME Office is able to increase the quota should they wish to and should do so by the required [deadline](#).

Fall Subspecialty Residency Match (FSRM)

There is no set deadline for the PGME Office to enter the program quota. If no quota has been entered by the program selection deadline, applicants are still able to apply to the program. However, we recommend updating program quota for the second iteration to provide applicants with an idea of how many positions are available so that they can determine if they want to apply to the program.

For step-by-step instructions on how to enter program quota, refer to the [Program Participation and Quota Information Guide](#).

File Review Period and Reversions

All file reviewers added in the first iteration will automatically have access to [review applications](#) for the second iteration. Programs can add or remove file reviewers for the second iteration through CaRMS Online once the *Filter and file reviewer set-up* period opens.

For step-by-step instructions on how to set up and modify file reviewer user accounts, refer to the File Reviewer Access section of the [User Management Information Guide](#).

Discussions regarding reversion options should begin during this period to ensure final reversion instructions are submitted by the PGME approval [deadline](#) for ranking, quota and reversions. For step-by-step instructions on how to complete reversions, refer to the [Ranking Period and Match Results Information Guide](#).

Interview Period

For second iteration, there is no designated interview period. Therefore, assigning an [interview offer status](#) to each candidate is not required, but is highly recommended. Interviews can take place anytime between the opening of file review and the rank order list deadline.

Ranking Period

Just as in the first iteration, programs are required to submit a rank order list to their postgraduate office (PGME) for approval by the second iteration rank order list [deadline](#).



For instructions on how to complete and approve a rank order list, refer to the [Ranking Period and Match Results Information Guide](#).

Match Results

Once rank order lists are submitted by programs and applicants, the final phase of the second iteration is running the match algorithm and compiling the match results.

Match results will become available to both programs and applicants in CaRMS Online at 12:00 noon on second iteration [match day](#). Match results are final and binding. You must contact matched applicants within 30 days.

For instructions on where to find your match results in CaRMS Online, refer to the “How to access match results” section in the [Ranking Period and Match Results Information Guide](#).

Once the match is complete, the retention of applicant personal information now falls under your faculty’s policies and you must discard all unmatched application packages (paper and electronic) in accordance with such policies.

Post-match process (PMP)

A Post-match process (PMP) is offered after completion of:

- the Family Medicine/Enhanced Skills (FM/ES) Match; and
- the second iteration of the R-1 Main Residency Match.

The screenshot displays the CaRMS website interface for the R-1 Main Residency Match (Post-match process) — Program timeline. The header includes the CaRMS logo, navigation links (The Match, Program Descriptions, Timelines, Data & Reports), and a LOG IN button. The main heading is "R-1 Main Residency Match (Post-match process) — Program timeline". Below this, a timeline shows four stages: FIRST ITERATION, SECOND ITERATION, POST-MATCH (highlighted with a red box), and FUTURE MATCHES. The page also includes the text "Updated May 17, 2024" and "2025 R-1 Main Residency Match".

Programs are not obligated to participate in the PMP. The PMP allows unmatched applicants to submit applications through CaRMS Online to programs that have unfilled positions and will still consider candidates.

There is no cost to applicants during the PMP because there are no ranking or matching services included. Application selection is completely at the faculty’s discretion and CaRMS is not involved in this process.



The overall post-match process for participating programs is made up of the following steps:

1. A program reviews and updates the [program description](#) (if required).
2. The PGME Office [participates the program](#) in the PMP ~~match~~.
3. The PGME Office updates the [program quota](#) (if required).
4. The program reviews incoming [applications](#) as they come in and selects applicants(s).
5. Once an applicant accepts the offer, the program [downloads](#) the applicant's application from CaRMS Online.
6. The PGME Office [withdraws/unparticipates](#) the program from the PMP.
7. The program completes the [Residency accepted outside of CaRMS](#) form and sends it to CaRMS.

Once the post-match process closes, applicants are no longer able to apply to programs and programs are no longer able to view applications.

Program participation

If a program has unfilled positions after the Family Medicine/Enhanced Skills (FM/ES) Match or from the R-1 Main Residency Match second iteration, it will be available to participate in the post-match process. However, new programs cannot be added to the PMP.

Programs are not obligated to participate in the PMP process. Participation is voluntary; therefore, programs with unfilled positions are not automatically participated in the PMP. The PGME Office must specifically participate a program for it to be included in the PMP.

For instructions on how to participate a program, refer to the "How to participate programs in a match" section of the [Program Participation and Quota Information Guide](#).

Available programs can be added or removed at any time by the PGME Office within the PMP [timeline](#) period.

Program quota

Updating your program quota for PMP is not mandatory, however we recommend entering the number of available positions for applicants who may want to apply. Program quota can be updated at any time by the PGME Office within the PMP [timeline](#) period.

For instructions on how to update your program's quota in PMP, refer to the Quota section of the [Program Participation and Quota Information Guide](#).

Application streams

Unfilled programs moved from the R-1 match second iteration or the FM/ES match into the post-match process generally remain in the same stream as they were designated.

For example,

- If the stream was designated as CMG-only in R-1 second iteration, it will remain CMG-only in PMP.
- If the stream was designated as competitive in FM/ES, it will remain competitive in PMP.

If a program wishes to switch application streams during the PMP, they must email the request to communication@carms.ca before program selection has occurred.

Program descriptions

If you need to update your [program description](#), contact your PGME Office and request that they return it back to you in CaRMS Online so that you can update it and resubmit it for approval.

The following table outlines what sections can and can't be edited within your program description in the PMP as well as who can make these edits.

Post-match process (PMP)			
Section	PROGRAM USERS: Program Director Program Administrator	PGME OFFICE: Postgraduate Dean PGME Coordinator Match Coordinator	Cannot be modified
Program Contact	•	•	
Important Information	•	•	
Review Process	•	•	
Interviews	•	•	
Selection Criteria	•	•	
Additional Information	•	•	
Examinations	•	•	
Reference Documents	•	•	
Additional Documents	•	•	
Return of Service		•	
Citizenship		•	
Language Proficiency		•	



General Instructions			●
Program Highlights			●
Program Curriculum			●
Training Sites			●
FAQs			●

Program descriptions for all programs participating in the PMP will be displayed on our website for applicants to review according to the PMP [R-1 timeline](#) and PMP [FM/ES timeline](#).

Application submission and selection

File review opens at the same time as the application period opens for candidates. All programs and file reviewers have access to all applications that have been submitted to their program(s) as soon as applications are submitted.

All arrangements are coordinated between the PGME Office, the program and the applicant; CaRMS is not involved beyond application submission. **There is no ranking period or matching service in the post-match process.**

Once a position has been filled, your PGME Office will withdraw/unparticipate the program from the post-match process to prevent new applications. Anyone who applied to the filled position will receive an email notification from CaRMS advising them that the program has been withdrawn.

How to notify CaRMS once you have filled your positions

Once position(s) have been filled, the program must withdraw from the post-match process to prevent new applications from being submitted. Applicants who applied to the filled position(s) will then receive an email notification from CaRMS notifying them that the position has been filled.

Once a program has found the successful applicant(s), the PGME Office must complete the following:

1. [Download](#) the selected applicant's application from CaRMS Online; and
2. [Withdraw/unparticipate](#) the program from the PMP to prevent new applications; and
3. Send the applicant's information to CaRMS using the [Residency accepted outside of CaRMS](#) form.

NOTE: When you unparticipate a program from PMP, the program description and quota is removed from our website and the program no longer has access to submitted applications. If you would like to send an email to any of the applicants before this removal, collect all information necessary prior to unparticipating the program.



Additional resources

Need additional support? Connect with us through the following methods:

- Check out our self-serve Help Center for:
 - [Program directors and administrators](#)
 - [Postgraduate medical education offices](#)
- Send us an email at communication@carms.ca
- Call us at 1 (877) 227-6742
- Live chat is available from within CaRMS Online during regular business hours