

## Independent IR residency match tips for diagnostic radiology programs (updated for the 2020 independent IR residency match)

### Basic independent IR residency match information

- There is only one match for the independent IR residency. The independent residency is part of the [ERAS ACGME/RCPSC/UCNS Fellowship - December cycle](#) and the NRMP Radiology Fellowship match within the [NRMP Specialties Match Program \(SMS®\)](#).
- ERAS and NRMP classify the independent IR residency as a fellowship for match purposes.
- Based on an APDIR survey, most programs will be reviewing applications from both ESIR and non-ESIR candidates. They will interview/rank candidates based on application quality and not whether candidates will train as an independent IR resident for 1 or 2 years.
- Independent programs will list separate “ESIR Applicant” and/or “Non-ESIR Applicant” tracks in their ERAS program listings depending on which type of applicants they will consider. (see image below).

Program A	
Training Name	Training Type
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-ESIR Applicant	Fellowship
<input type="checkbox"/> ESIR Applicant	Fellowship

  

Program B	
Training Name	Training Type
<input type="checkbox"/> ESIR Applicant	Fellowship

### Recommendations for independent IR residency applicants

- Independent IR residency ESIR applicants should include a paragraph in their personal statement describing their expected ESIR experience. This paragraph should include the following information:
  - A statement that you are selected for ESIR
  - Your expected number of procedures, including a brief description of procedure mix
  - The IR related rotations you expect to complete.
- ESIR applicants must include an **ESIR Applicant Diagnostic Radiology Program Director Standardized Letter of Recommendation** as one of their four letters of recommendation submitted to programs via their ERAS application. By using the standardized letter, applicants will not have to submit ESIR verification documents to IR programs outside the ERAS system. The template for the letter can be downloaded here: [ESIR letter template](#). ESIR applicants will give the standardized letter template to their diagnostic radiology program director who must complete all four sections before submitting the letter to ERAS. Sections include:

- Applicant and program director data
- Diagnostic radiology program director letter of recommendation
- Block training diagram for R1-R4 years
- Diagnostic radiology program director ESIR acceptance statement
- Non-ESIR Applicants *do not* need to use the ESIR Applicant Diagnostic Radiology Program Director Standardized Letter template.

For more information on the independent IR residency, please visit the [SIR independent IR residency match webpage](#).

FAQs addressing the IR residency can be found [here](#).

You can also view an [APDIR webinar: Independent IR residency & ESIR](#).

For any questions, please contact Jennifer Goubeaux, SIR's graduate medical affairs program manager at [jgoubeaux@sirweb.org](mailto:jgoubeaux@sirweb.org) or 703-460-5579.