

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY FEINBERG SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY
POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Resident Selection Policy

Revised July 2017

PURPOSE

To clearly define the selection process for general surgery categorical and preliminary residency applicants

PERSONS INVOLVED

Program Leadership, Program Coordinator, faculty members and residents

PROCEDURES

The General Surgery Program selects 11 residents in the match each year: 5 categorical, 6 preliminary. Applicant files are reviewed by both the Program Leadership and the Program Coordinator. Applications are reviewed and assigned scores for the following categories:

- Research/Publications
- Activities/Leadership
- Letters of recommendation
- Personal statement
- MSPE
- USMLE scores
- Surgery and medicine clerkship grades

Once all applicants that were selected for review have been scored, the applicants are ranked and the top ~80 will be offered interviews. Applicants interview with four faculty members each of which uses behavioral interviewing strategies to explore one of four character traits: resilience, communication skills, teamwork, and self-confidence. Interview scores are combined with the application score to generate a ranking score. At the completion of the interview season, a committee consisting of Program Leadership, faculty and residents finalizes the rank list.

The Department of Surgery of Northwestern University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Educator and Employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.