

## SDC 1. Perspectives on the Plastic Surgery Common Application (PSCA) Survey

### Demographic Information

1. Type of applicant:
  - 0, MD from US medical school
  - 1, DO from US medical school
  - 2, Other international degree → Branch to 1B

1B. Please list country of medical school education
  
2. What is your gender identity?
  - 0, Female
  - 1, Male
  - 2, Transgender female
  - 3, Transgender male
  - 4, Non-binary
  - 5, Agender
  - 6, Prefer not to say
  - 7, Other
  
3. What race do you identify with?
  - 0, American Indian or Alaskan Native
  - 1, Asian
  - 2, Black or African American
  - 3, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
  - 4, White
  - 5, Prefer not to say
  - 6, Other
  
4. What region of the country was your medical school located?
  - 0, Northeast (NJ, NY, PA, RI, CT, MA, VT, NH, ME)
  - 1, South (MD, DE, WV, VA, DC, KY, TN, NC, SC, GA, AL, MS, FL AR, LA, OK, TX)
  - 2, Midwest (OH, MI, IN, WI, IL, MN, IA, MO, ND, SD, NE, KS)
  - 3, West (MT, WY, CO, NM, ID, UT, AZ, WA, OR, CA, NV)
  - 4, Pacific (AK, HI)

## Education Information

5. Step 1 Score:  
0, Open Response

6. Step 2 Score:  
0, Open Response

7. AOA status:  
0, Inducted  
1, Not inducted  
2, My school does not have a chapter

8. Did your medical school rank their students?  
0, No  
1, Yes → Branch to 8B

8B. What was your class rank? (Select your rank based on your schools ranking methods  
-thirds vs. quarters)

0, Top third  
1, Middle third  
2, Bottom third  
3, Top quartile  
4, Second quartile  
5, Third quartile  
6, Bottom quartile

9. Did you participate in the couples' match?  
0, No  
1, Yes

10. Did you take a research year during or after medical school?  
0, No  
1, Yes, one year  
2, Yes, more than one year

11. How many research experiences did you report on your residency application (#)?  
0, Open Response

12. How many poster presentations, oral presentations, and abstracts did you report on your residency application (#)?

0, Open Response

13. How many peer-reviewed publications (accepted + submitted) did you report on your residency application (#)?

0, Open Response

14. What additional degrees, if any, do you have? (Select all that apply)

0, No additional degrees

1, MBA

2, MPH

3, PhD

4, MS

5, JD

6, Other: Free text

15. Did you apply for plastic surgery residency using the plastic surgery common application during the 2021-2022 application cycle?

0, No → Branch to 15B

1, Yes

15B. What are the reasons you chose not to apply for plastic surgery residency using the plastic surgery common application? (Select all that apply)

0, Did not feel like it was necessary or added any more information to my ERAS application

1, I am not applying to schools that required the PSCA

2, Did not have time to complete both ERAS and PSCA applications

3, Other → Free Response

16. How satisfied were you with the PSCA SurveyMonkey survey experience?

0, Extremely dissatisfied → Branch to 16A

1, Somewhat dissatisfied → Branch to 16A

2, Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied

3, Somewhat satisfied

4, Extremely satisfied

16A. What are some reasons you answered “extremely dissatisfied” or “somewhat dissatisfied” regarding the PSCA Survey Monkey experience?

0, Free Text

### **Plastic Surgery Common Application Content**

17. How well were you able to highlight your research experiences on the PSCA?

0, Not well at all

1, Slightly well

2, Moderately Well

3, Very well

4, Extremely Well

18. How well were you able to highlight your research productivity (peer-reviewed publications, presentations) on the PSCA?

0, Not well at all

1, Slightly well

2, Moderately Well

3, Very well

4, Extremely Well

19. How well were you able to highlight your service experiences on the PSCA?

0, Not well at all

1, Slightly well

2, Moderately Well

3, Very well

4, Extremely Well

20. How well were you able to highlight your leadership experiences on the PSCA?

0, Not well at all

1, Slightly well

2, Moderately Well

3, Very well

4, Extremely Well

21. How well were you able to highlight your work experiences?

0, Not well at all

- 1, Slightly well
- 2, Moderately Well
- 3, Very well
- 4, Extremely Well

22. How well were you able to highlight your reasons and goals for entering the field of plastic surgery?

- 0, Not well at all
- 1, Slightly well
- 2, Moderately Well
- 3, Very well
- 4, Extremely Well

23. How well were you able to highlight your extracurricular activities and hobbies?

- 0, Not well at all
- 1, Slightly well
- 2, Moderately Well
- 3, Very well
- 4, Extremely Well

24. For those questions above which you answered “not well at all” or “slightly well”, what are some of the reasons you were unable to highlight those aspects of your application?

- 0, Limited word count for entry (<100 words per experience)
- 1, Limited number of entries (i.e., top 3 most impactful research projects, limited to 5 meaningful experiences)
- 2, Other (Free Text)
- 3, N/A

25. Do you believe the 3 “short answer questions” in the PSCA provided information that otherwise would not have been portrayed by ERAS alone?

- 0, No
- 1, Yes

26. ERAS has a section for participation in honorary/professional societies that is not in the PSCA. Do you feel like the omission of this section negatively impacts the strength of your PSCA application?

- 0, Not at all
- 1, Slightly
- 2, Moderately
- 3, Very much
- 4, Extremely

27. Do you believe that the PSCA or ERAS better highlights the strengths of your application?

- 0, PSCA → Branch to 27A
- 1, ERAS → Branch to 27B
- 2, Both highlighted the strengths of my application equally well

27A. What strengths of your application do you believe were better captured by the PSCA?

- 0, Personal attributes
- 1, Dedication to plastic surgery
- 2, Future goals and plans within plastic surgery
- 2, Research accolades or experiences
- 3, Leadership experiences
- 4, Service experiences
- 5, Work experience
- 6, Extracurricular activities
- 7, Other: free text

27B. What strengths of your application do you believe were better captured by ERAS?

- 0, Personal attributes
- 1, Dedication to plastic surgery
- 2, Future goals and plans within plastic surgery
- 2, Research accolades or experiences
- 3, Leadership experiences
- 4, Service experiences
- 5, Work experience
- 6, Extracurricular activities
- 7, Other: free text

28. Do you believe that the PSCA or ERAS emphasized weaknesses of your application more than the other?

0, PSCA → Branch to 28A

1, ERAS → Branch to 28B

2, Both emphasized the weaknesses of my application equally

28A. What weaknesses of your application do you believe were emphasized by the PSCA?

0, Personal attributes

1, Dedication to plastic surgery

2, Future goals and plans within plastic surgery

2, Research accolades or experiences

3, Leadership experiences

4, Service experiences

5, Work experience

6, Extracurricular activities

7, Other: free text

28B. What weaknesses of your application do you believe were emphasized by ERAS?

0, Personal attributes

1, Dedication to plastic surgery

2, Future goals and plans within plastic surgery

2, Research accolades or experiences

3, Leadership experiences

4, Service experiences

5, Work experience

6, Extracurricular activities

7, Other: free text

29. Do you believe that additional information obtained with the PSCA will help you receive interview invitations at these programs?

0, No

1, Yes

30. How important is the cost saving aspect of the free PSCA when compared to the with ERAS?
- 0, Not important at all
  - 1, Somewhat important
  - 2, Mildly important
  - 3, Very important
  - 4, Extremely important
31. What changes would you like to see for the future of the PSCA?
- 0, Open Response
32. In your mind, what is the most beneficial aspect of the ACAPS recommendation to solely utilize the PSCA going forward?
- 0, Open Response
33. In your mind, what is the most detrimental aspect of the ACAPS recommendation to solely utilize the PSCA going forward?
- 0, Open Response
34. If you could select an application service to use for residency applications, which would you prefer?
- 0, Prefer to apply with PSCA only
  - 1, Prefer to apply with ERAS only
  - 2, Prefer to apply with both PSCA and ERAS
  - 3, No preference



