

**From:** Amy Addams <[aaddams@aamc.org](mailto:aaddams@aamc.org)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 10, 2021 11:27 AM

**Subject:** Plastic Surgery Common Application - 2021-22 application cycle

Good morning,

We're sharing the following message on behalf of plastic surgery. Please share it with your students who are interested in applying for plastic surgery residency programs this fall.

Amy

Amy Addams (she/her/hers)

Director, Student Affairs Alignment and Holistic Review; AAMC

Email: [aaddams@aamc.org](mailto:aaddams@aamc.org)

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Dear student affairs community:

Plastic Surgery is piloting the plastic surgery common application (PSCA) for the second year. The PSCA is a free alternative to ERAS, with the goal of collecting customizable, specialty-specific content. The PSCA has been designed and iteratively revised to capture applicants' most relevant, meaningful, and salient experiences and accomplishments so that reviewers can better assess alignment with their program's goals, mission, and environment. The PSCA is straightforward to use -- applicants simply login and complete (<https://psca.smapply.io/>). Applicants will initiate electronic requests for their MSPE and transcript directly to schools, and recommendation requests will be sent to letter writers.

For the 2021-22 residency cycle, applicants interested in plastic surgery should be aware that:

- The American Council of Academic Plastic Surgeons (ACAPS) has encouraged all training programs to use the PSCA this year
- Some programs are using both the PSCA and ERAS. Plastic surgery programs participating in ERAS can be found on the [ERAS Participating Specialties Page](#).
- Applicants should assume that all programs will be accepting the PSCA unless otherwise stated on the program website.
- Some programs are only using the PSCA. If a plastic surgery program is only using the PSCA, they will be listed in ERAS as "Not Participating". As of August 10<sup>th</sup> the following programs are only using the PSCA:
  - Duke University
  - Oregon Health and Sciences University
  - University of California Irvine
  - University of Cincinnati
  - Vanderbilt University Medical Center

If you or your students have any questions about the PSCA, please send an email to [PSCA@vumc.org](mailto:PSCA@vumc.org). For specific questions about a program's expectations and requirements, please encourage your students to visit the program's website or reach out to them directly.