Match Day

Medical students wait four years for this day: the day they get their assignments to residency programs. At medical schools all over the country, students rip open their envelopes at the exact same time. In Chicago the big moment is 11 a.m.

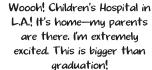


The envelopes are passed out in random order. The last student to get one wins a cash pot, courtesy of the class.

The students have to wait for all the envelopes to be distributed before opening theirs.

You find out two days our list. The heat's off, it's not







I already knew my placement, because I'm in one of the specialized fields where we do it early. I'm going to Vanderbilt—for neurosurgery. Tammy Carpenter (with her two kids)

I was talking with one of my advisers, and she said the most important thing is to minimize stress during residency. Does that mean being near your parents? Far from your parents?



I got my first choice. I'm doing my intern year at MacNeal Hospital in Berwyn and my residency at OHSU in Portland. I really want to live there, and it's the best choice for my family but it's not as good a program. I mean, here you came from this academic powerhouse, but it's more complicated than that.

