

**SOCIETY OF PEDIATRIC
ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY**

Pediatric Advanced Cardiac Imaging (PACI) Match *SPEED* session

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**Society for
Cardiovascular
Magnetic
Resonance**

PACI Match working group

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Hari Rajagopal (Cohen)

Tim Slesnick (Emory)

Shubika Srivastava (Nemours)

Pierre Wong (CHLA)



Housekeeping items

- Q/A for 5-10 minutes after the slide deck presentation

Outline

- 1) Introduction to SF match
- 2) Outline of the match procedure
- 3) Fellow and Program director surveys throughout the presentation
- 4) Internal applicants
- 5) Timeline
- 6) Common Application
- 7) Cost to applicants
- 8) Q/A



Why a match?

- Provides transparency for which positions are available across the country
- Common timeline so that all applicants can evaluate all programs with available positions and vice versa
- Applicants will be free to evaluate all options (faculty positions & fellowships) before having to make a choice
- Streamlined process
 - One application
 - Send all letters to one place
 - Reduced admin burden
- Broad support from imaging directors across the country
- Endorsed by ASE & SCMR

Why SF Match? (sfmatch.org)

- Started in the late 70's, with ophthalmology residency match
- Run 23 matches, including: congenital heart surgery, adult CV anesthesia and orthopedics subspecialties
- Subspecialty ortho is 400+ programs with 900+ positions, while congenital heart surgery has 10 programs with 11 positions
- Mechanism to accept internal applicants
- Value add SF match provides
 - Matching interface for applicants and programs
 - Common application
 - Single process for letters of reference
 - Published statistics: Number of positions, how many fill, demographics, vacancies



Specialties

RESIDENCY MATCH

- Ophthalmology
- Plastic Surgery

FELLOWSHIP MATCH

- Abdominal Transplant Surgery
- Adult Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology
- Aesthetic Plastic Surgery
- Congenital Cardiac Surgery
- Cosmetic Dermatologic Surgery
- Craniofacial Surgery
- Critical Care Anesthesiology
- Facial Plastic Surgery
- Micrographic Surgery/Dermatology Oncology
- Microsurgery
- Movement Disorders
- Neurocritical Care
- Neuroimmunology & Multiple Sclerosis
- Neuro-Oncology
- Neurotology
- Obstetric Anesthesiology
- Oculofacial Plastic Surgery
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopaedics
- Pediatric Advanced Cardiac Imaging
- Pediatric Anesthesiology
- Pediatric Dermatology
- Pediatric Neurosurgery
- Pediatric Otolaryngology
- Regional Anesthesiology & Acute Pain Medicine
- Rhinology



Participate in 2024 N=19	Only internal for 2024 N=6	Only take internal candidates N=4	Nonparticipant for 2024 N=3
Advocate	Arkansas	Duke	Children’s National Med Ctr
Boston	CHOA (Emory)	Michigan	Florida – taking internal
Cincinnati	Columbus	MUSC	Univ Virginia
CHLA	Lurie	Wash U	
CHOP	Texas Children’s		
Cohen	Vanderbilt		
Columbia			
Denver			
KC			
Mt Sinai			
MCOW			
Nemours			
Phoenix			
Seattle			
Stanford			
UCSF			
UPMC			
Utah			
UTSW			



Fellow survey results

Q - Which year did you (or will you) complete categorical cardiology fellowship?

Answer	%	Count
Before 2023	6%	4
2023	31%	21
2024	21%	14
2025	43%	29
Total	100%	68

Q - Are you applying in 2024 to start an imaging fellowship that will run from 2025-2026?

Answer	%	Count
Yes	57%	38
No	43%	29
Total	100%	68

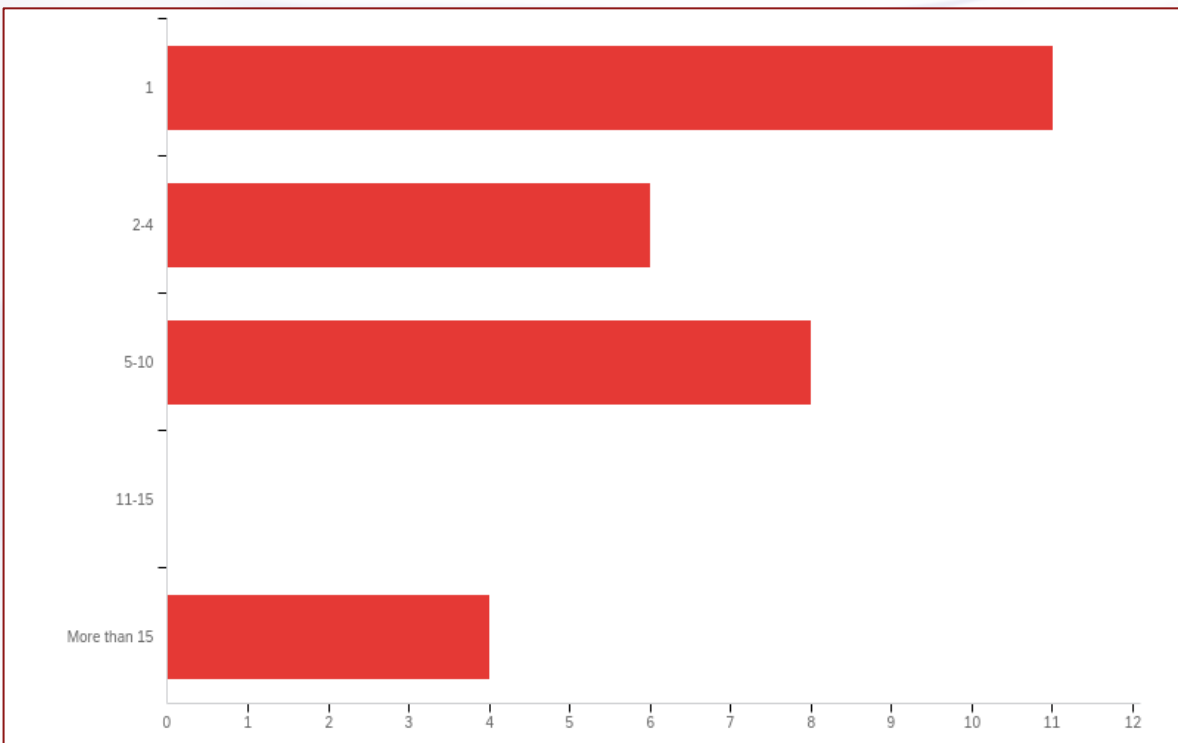


Fellow survey results: How do you find out about programs?

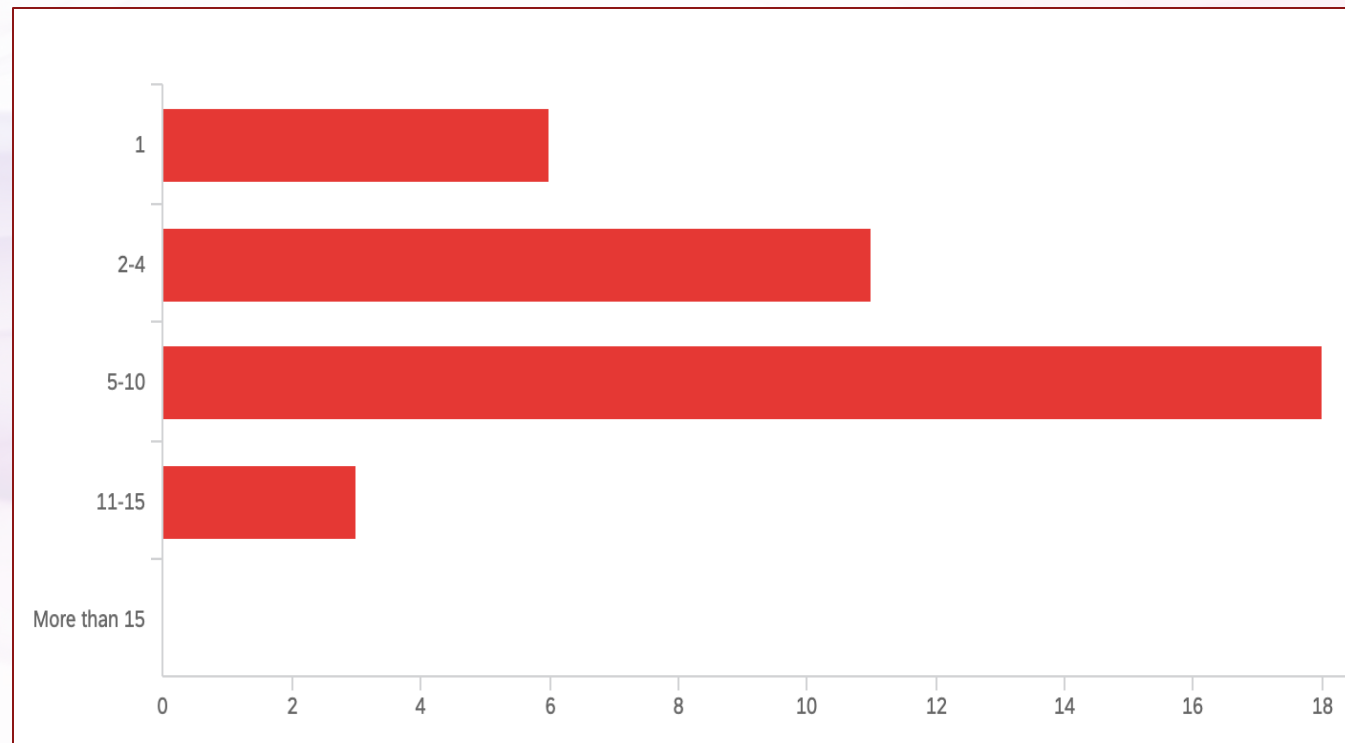
Answer	%	Count
SPCTPD (Society of pediatric cardiology training program directors) website	29%	37
Mentor/Word of mouth	36%	46
Individual program websites	24%	31
Imaging society website (ASE/SCMR/Fetal Heart Society)	9%	11
Other (please describe below)	2%	3
Total	100%	128

How many programs did you (or do you plan to) apply to?

Current and prospective PACI fellows

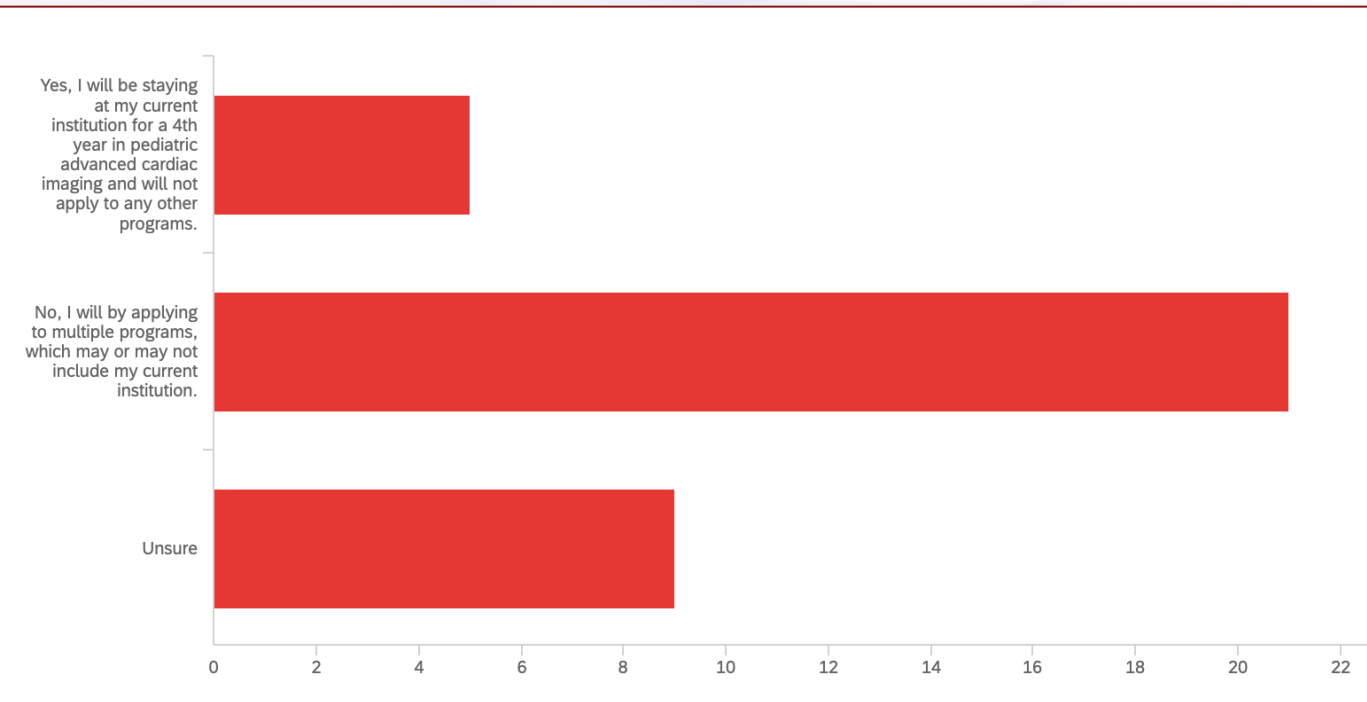


Fellows applying this cycle

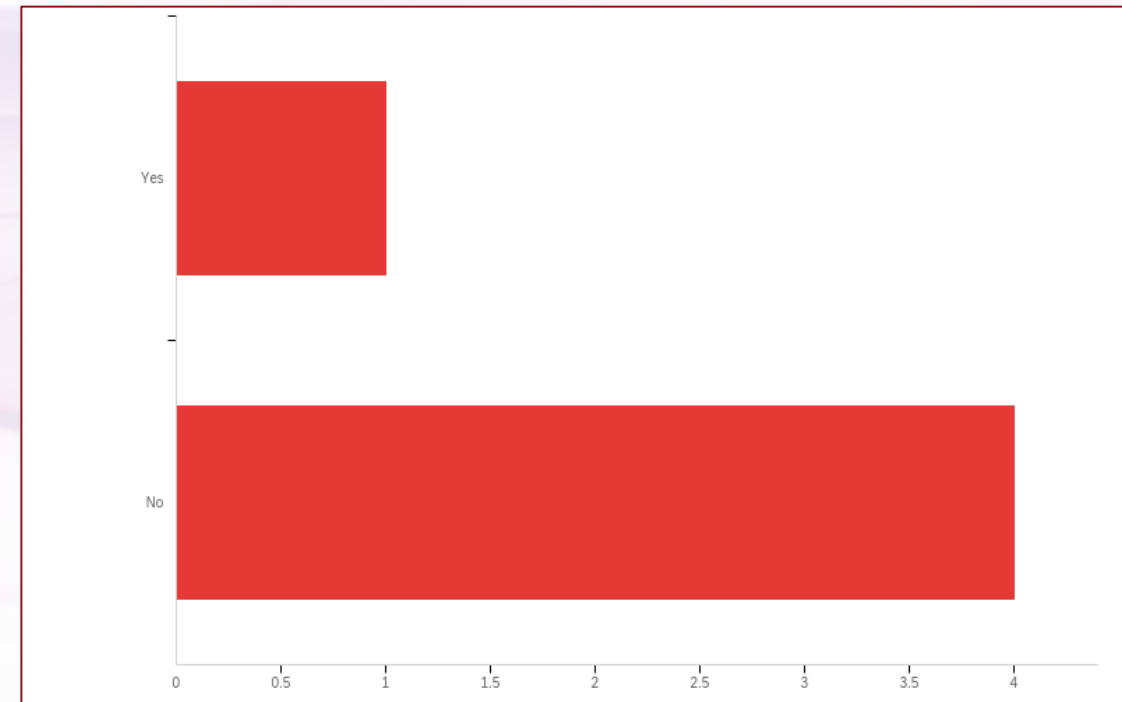


Internal applicants: fellow survey

Do you plan on staying at your home institution?



Have you already reached this agreement with the director(s) of the fellowship?



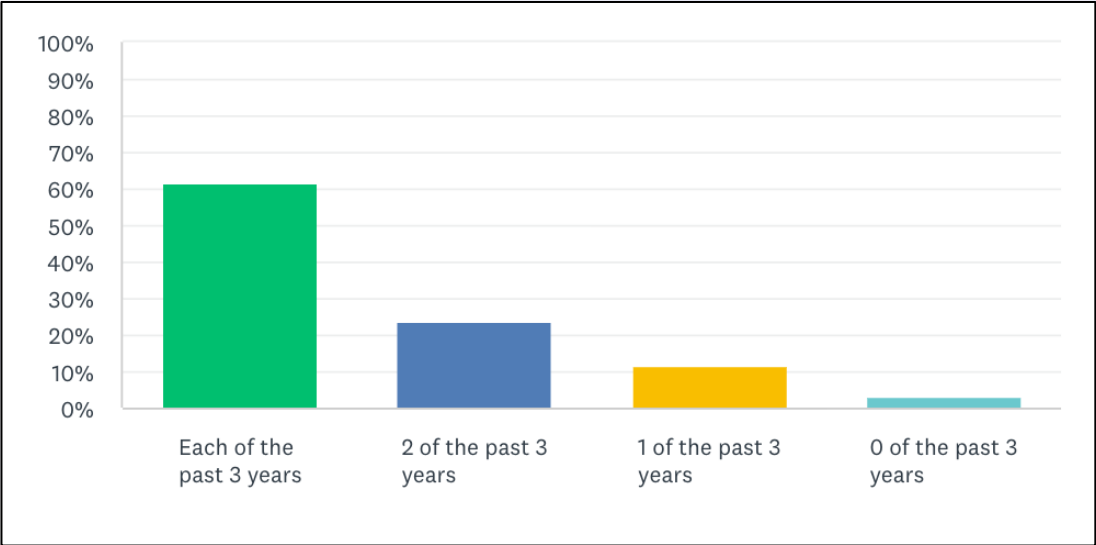
Internal applicants: program director survey

How often do you interview outside applicants?

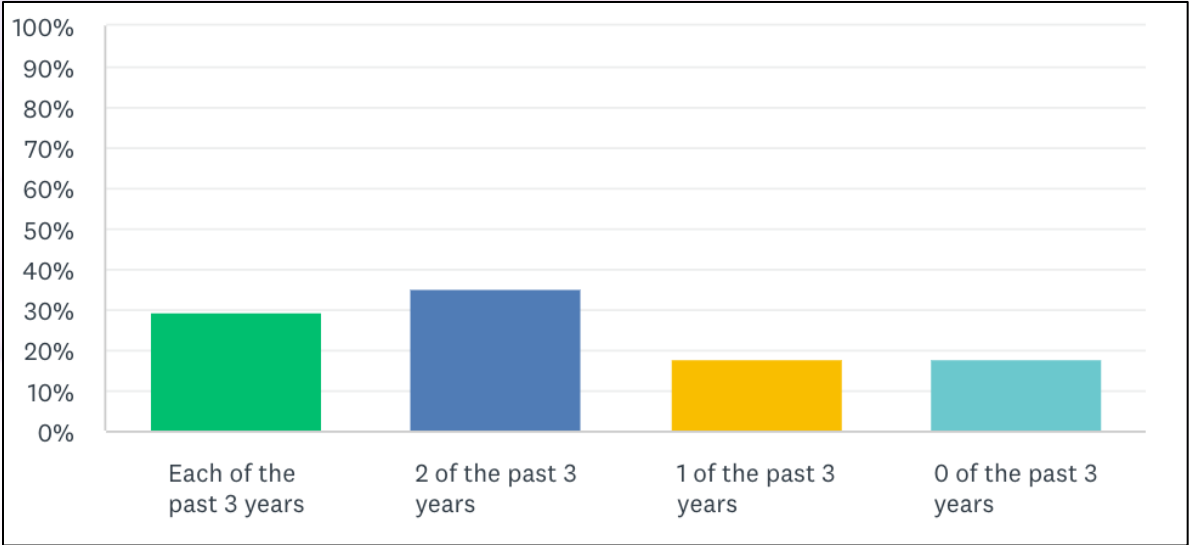
ANSWER CHOICES ▼	RESPONSES ▼
▼ Always (if we have a position)	26.47% 9
▼ We typically interview outside applicants. Rarely, if an internal candidate is clearly a great fit and committed to staying, we have not interviewed outside applicants.	32.35% 11
▼ If we have an internal candidate who has committed to staying, we typically would not interview outside candidates.	26.47% 9
▼ If we have an internal candidate who has committed to staying, we always take them and do not interview outside candidates.	5.88% 2
▼ We only accept internal candidates. If there are no internal candidates, we do not interview outside applicants.	2.94% 1
▼ Other (please specify) Responses	5.88% 2

Internal applicants: Program director survey

Of the past 3 years, how many times have you had at least one cardiology fellow?

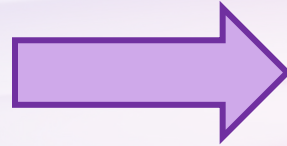


Of the past 3 years, how many times have you accepted an internal candidate without considering external applicants?



Taking internal applicants

- PACI fellows are further along on their career than categorical fellows
- More evolved geographic, personal and professional considerations
- At some programs, the 4th year is seen to be an extension of categorical fellowship



- Any program may **opt out** of the match any year that they take an internal applicant without interviewing externally
- They do not submit that position to the match
- Will still be listed in SPCTPD and SOPE websites

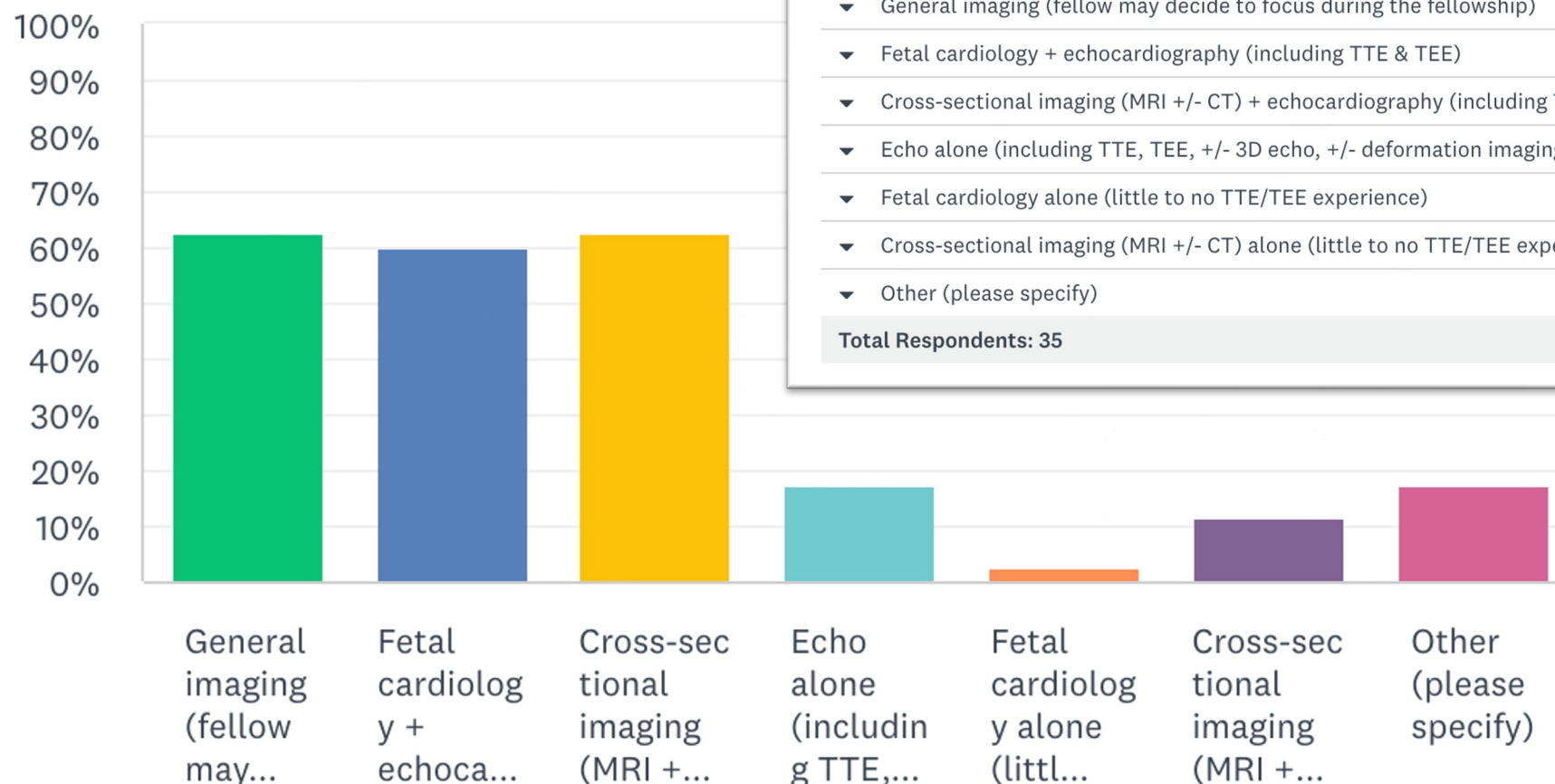


Residency
and Fellowship
Match Services

Training tracks (subspecialties)

- Programs can select 1 of 6 **training options** to define their program. A program can have > 1 type
 1. Broad training (fetal, MRI/CT, TTE and TEE available. Fellow often decide to focus during training)
 2. MRI/CT + echocardiography (TTE + TEE)
 3. Fetal cardiology + echocardiography (TTE + TEE)
 4. Echo alone (TTE + TEE, +/- 3D, +/- functional imaging)
 5. Fetal cardiology alone (little to no TTE/TEE)
 6. MRI/CT alone (little to no TTE/TEE)
- Trainees can (and should) **apply to multiple types** of training tracks
 - A trainee interested in fetal cardiology may apply to programs which offer general imaging (track 1), fetal + echo (track 3) and fetal cardiology alone (track 4)
 - A trainee interested in MRI/CT may apply to general imaging (track 1), MRI/CT + echo (track 2) and MRI/CT alone (track 5)

Program director survey: Training tracks (subspecialties)



ANSWER CHOICES

- ▼ General imaging (fellow may decide to focus during the fellowship)
- ▼ Fetal cardiology + echocardiography (including TTE & TEE)
- ▼ Cross-sectional imaging (MRI +/- CT) + echocardiography (including TTE & TEE)
- ▼ Echo alone (including TTE, TEE, +/- 3D echo, +/- deformation imaging)
- ▼ Fetal cardiology alone (little to no TTE/TEE experience)
- ▼ Cross-sectional imaging (MRI +/- CT) alone (little to no TTE/TEE experience)
- ▼ Other (please specify)

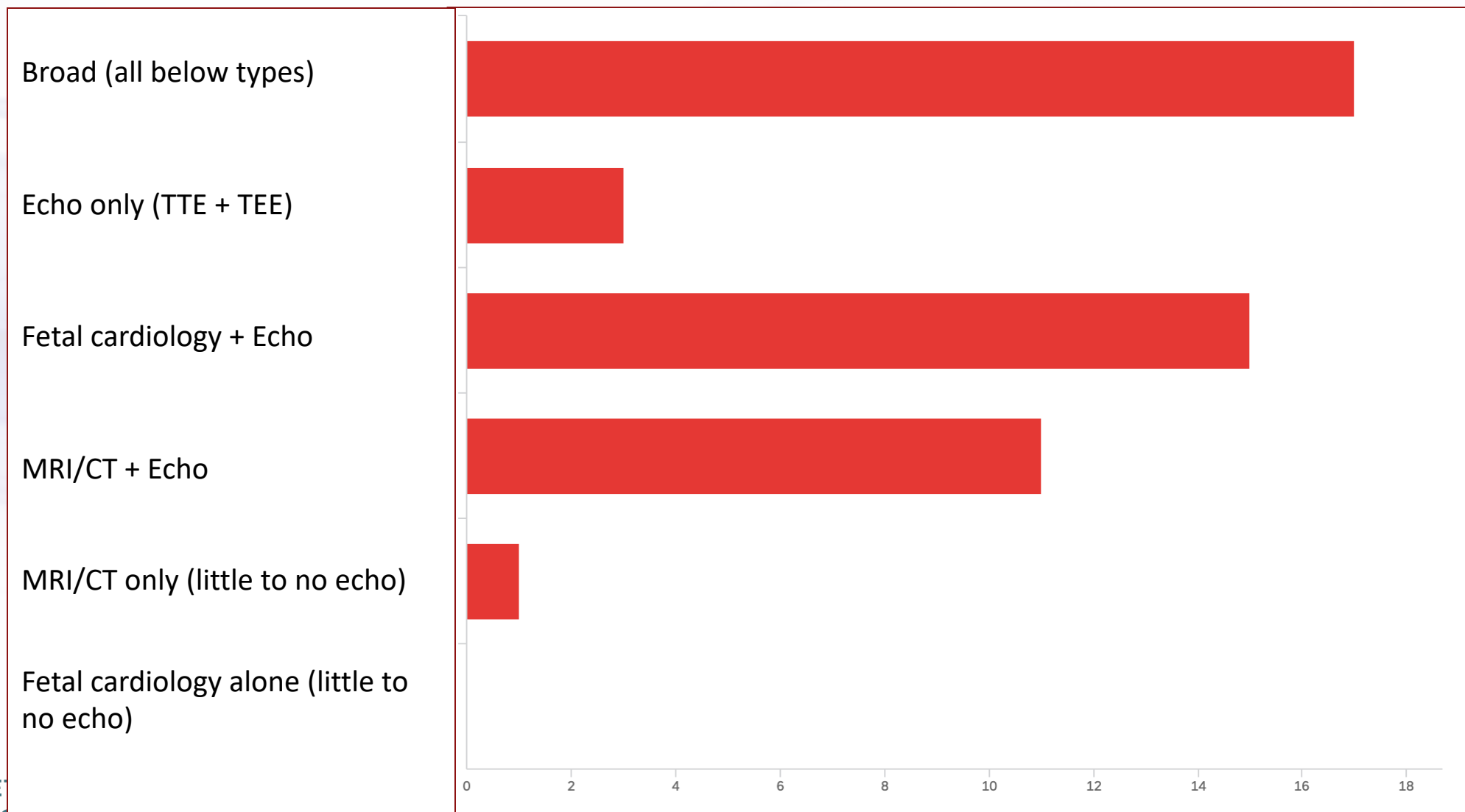
RESPONSES

62.86%	22
60.00%	21
62.86%	22
17.14%	6
2.86%	1
11.43%	4
17.14%	6

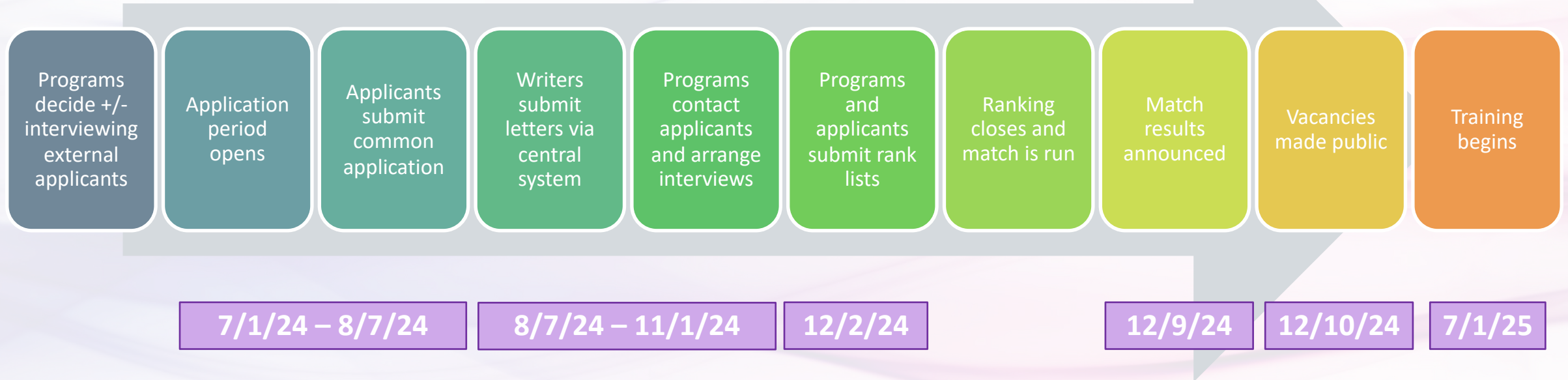
Total Respondents: 35



Fellow survey: What training track are you most interested in?



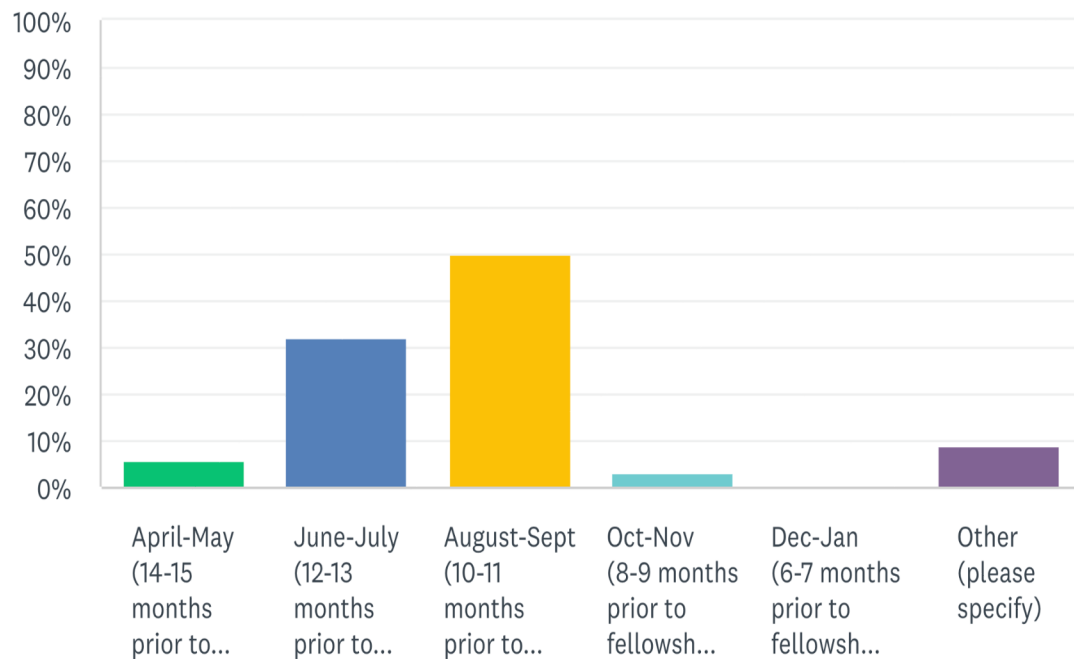
Timeline



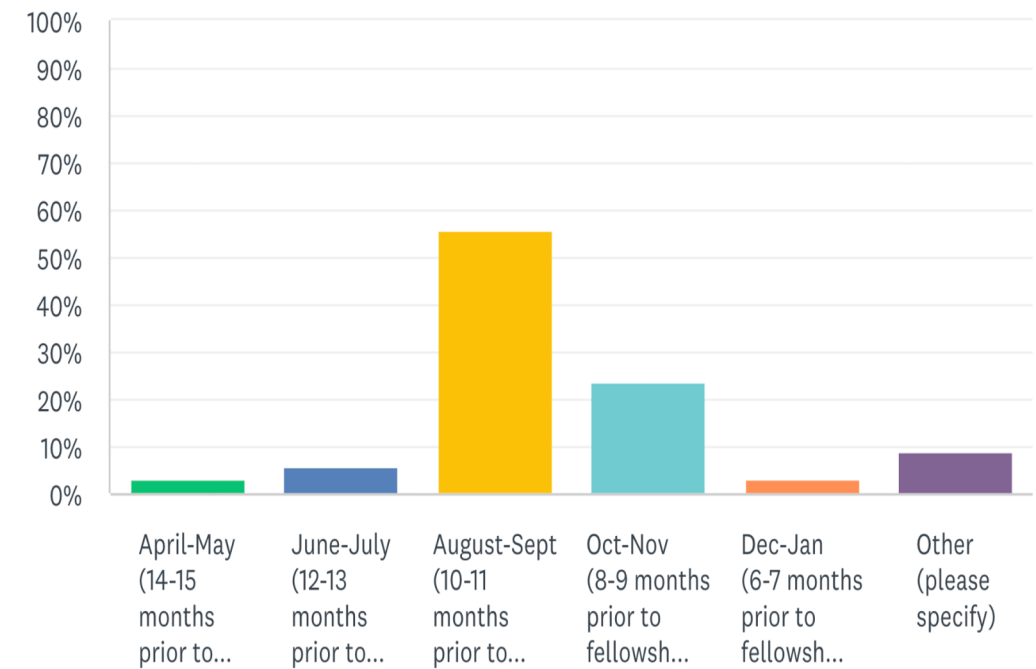
- Application period runs over 5 months. Mirrors the pediatric subspecialty match
- Programs **must not** withdraw a submitted training spot after application open day (7/1/24)
- Programs **may** submit an additional position during the application period (7/1/24 – 11/1/24)
- Applicants are committed to training at a program they rank. **No commitment** prior to rank list submission

Timeline: program director survey

When do you interview applicants?

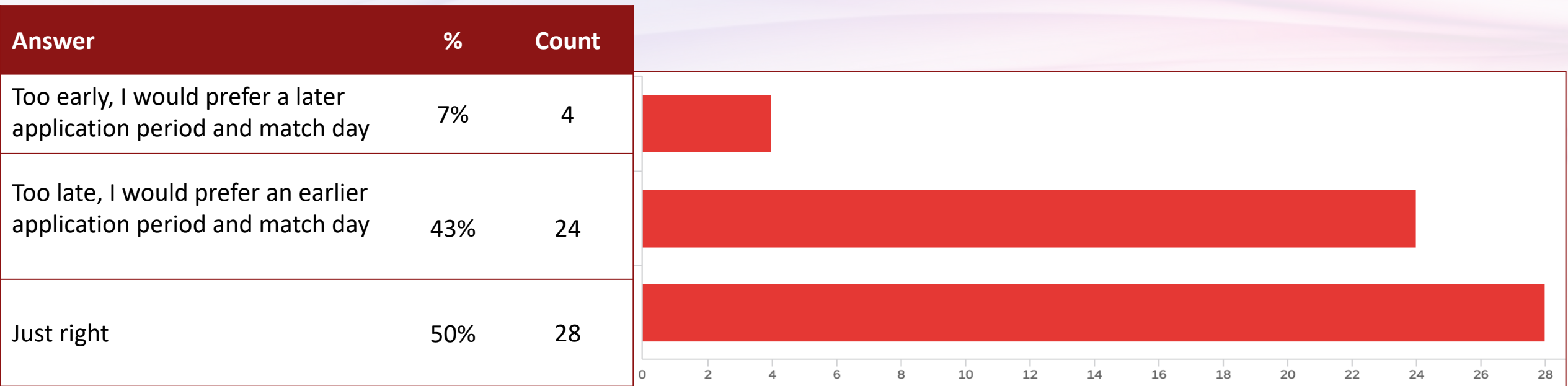


When do you currently offer positions to applicants?



Timeline: fellow survey

The application period will open in July 2024, with interviews taking place over the subsequent months and a match day in December of 2024. This timeline is:



Common application

- Personal statement
- Publications, presentations, training history, board certification licensure, board scores
- Curriculum Vitale
- 3 Letters of reference
 - Consider one from training program director and/or echo lab director
- Honors, awards, other activities, outside interests
- Citizenship/residency/visa status (need for sponsorship)

Opting out for a year

- If a program opts out of the match for any reason:
 - Must opt out before the opening of the application period
 - If a position is listed, it will be open to external applicants
- Reasons to opt out:
 - A program and applicant are committed to the applicant staying (keeping **internal applicant**)
 - Does not have funding for a position that year

Costs to fellow applicants

- Cost set by SF match, across all specialties
- Less expensive than NRMP + ERAS
- \$210 to apply to up to 10 programs
- Additional fee for > 10 programs
 - 11-20 programs \$10/program
 - 21-30 programs \$15/program
 - 31-40 programs \$20/program
 - 41 or more \$35/program
- No additional fee to apply to multiple tracks

Concerns: Fellow survey

Answer	%	Count
Timeline	27%	29
The number of programs participating	32%	35
Cost to apply through the match (\$210)	25%	27
Other (please describe below)	8%	9
No concerns	7%	8
Total	100%	108

Questions?

- Timeline
 - Considering options outside of the match
 - Interviewing
- Cost
 - Payment to SF match
 - Keeping cost down
- Keeping internal candidates
 - Discuss this with your program director
 - Deadline is July 1

