



Montreal, Quebec
February 1st, 2024

Subject : Follow-up on the CaRMS matching process integrity

This statement follows up on several concerns voiced by Canadian medical students as well as Canadian health professionals organisations, regarding a situation where the integrity of the Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS) process may have been compromised in December 2023.

An article by the *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)* published on December 22, 2023, mentioned a group of Canadian physicians expressing intentions to compromise the residency match process for 271 medical students that have signed a petition.

Furthermore, several cases of censorship have been documented in many organizations that Canadian medical students and residents are part of, after they have shared their political opinion, affecting their academic and professional careers.

In this context, the Fédération Médicale Étudiante du Québec (FMEQ) wishes to denounce any action that could compromise the equality in opportunities for medical students.

We remind you that the FMEQ agrees with the position of the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC) and the CaRMS on the integrity of matching process, but wishes to go further in terms of requests, in the best interest of the students that we represent.

Therefore, the FMEQ asks the the CaRMS, the AFMC, the vice-deanships of post-graduate medical studies of the faculties of medicine and the program directors for post-graduate programs across the country to guarantee that the residency matching process is fair and exempt from any kind of organized political targeting, through the following actions :

1. To follow up on the measures taken to assure the neutrality of the CaRMS matching process ;

2. To issue a public statement, addressed to all Canadian medical students, highlighting the concrete measures that have been taken to ensure the neutrality of the CaRMS matching process,
3. To acknowledge the threat that organized political targeting represents to a fair and transparent residency admission process, and to the integrity of healthcare and education systems;
4. To be conscious of the prejudice that this kind of targeting or discrimination causes to medical students during their matching process, known for being a source of stress;
5. To make sure that the CaRMS interviews are conducted by professors and residents who are able to evaluate the students according to their academic and extracurricular achievements, in an unbiased manner;
6. To publish a reminder about the Match Violation Policy that is available to students that believe that their matching results could have been compromised by organized political targeting, and to make sure that the applications of students that could have been affected by organized political targeting are reevaluated by unbiased professors and residents.

We hope that these actions are taken as soon as possible to ensure a fair and unbiased matching process to all medical students.

For the FMEQ's Executive Council,

Ms. Christina Fayad, Communications Delegate

Ms. Sophie Fournier-Marcoux, International and Community Affairs Delegate