

**From:** AAMC - Association of American Medical Colleges [<mailto:residencyinterview@aamc.org>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 1:04 PM

**Subject:** AAMC Standardized Video Interview: Emergency Medicine Pilot Program Renewed for the ERAS 2019 Application Cycle



Dear ERAS Medical School Administrator,

The AAMC is pleased to announce the continuation—for a second year—of an operational pilot program with the emergency medicine community to assess the use of the [AAMC Standardized Video Interview](#) during the 2018-2019 residency recruitment season.

After analyzing the results of two years of research into the reliability and validity of the tool, and taking into account feedback from applicants and program directors who participated in the operational pilot last year, the AAMC believes that the Standardized Video Interview may be an effective tool in the residency application and selection process.

Preliminary results of psychometric measures are very promising: high levels of inter-rater agreement, minimal to no group differences in scores, and a small correlation between interview scores (which measure behavioral competency) and USMLE Step 1 scores (which measure academic competency). But, we need more data to understand the correlation between an applicant's Standardized Video Interview score and success in the Match or performance in a residency program. A second operational pilot year will allow us to evaluate the interview score in relationship to resident evaluations and other outcome data.

As you may be aware, the Standardized Video Interview is the result of feedback collected from program directors expressing a need to better assess applicants beyond their USMLE and/or COMLEX-USA scores; and from applicants expressing a desire to share objective, performance-based information about themselves, beyond academic metrics, to add breadth and depth to their application.

The emergency medicine residency program community (Society for Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM); Association of Academic Chairs of Emergency Medicine (AACEM); American Academy of Emergency Medicine Resident and Student Association (AAEM/RSA); Clerkship Directors in Emergency Medicine (CDEM); and Council of Residency Directors in Emergency Medicine (CORD)) has again endorsed the use of this assessment tool for all applicants and program directors in emergency medicine. We are grateful to the members of the AAMC's Standardized Video Interview Working Group—comprised of leaders from SAEM, AACEM, AAEM-RSA, CDEM,

CORD-EM, Emergency Medicine Residents Association, AAMC Group on Student Affairs, AAMC Group on Diversity and Inclusion—who continue to advise the AAMC on interview content, scoring rubric, rater validation, safeguards against bias and group differences, building the validity of the tool, and appropriate application of this tool in the residency selection process.

The AAMC will absorb the cost of the entire pilot program. There will be no additional cost to applicants, schools, or programs participating in this pilot.

We want to make you aware of two updated resources that will assist applicants and their advisors in understanding and preparing for the AAMC Standardized Video Interview requirement:

[\*The AAMC Standardized Video Interview: Essentials for the ERAS 2019 Season\*](#) covers operational details of the AAMC Standardized Video Interview, including format, content, scoring, registration instructions, and terms and conditions. The Essentials also outlines the necessary requirements for requesting an extension or accommodations.

[\*The AAMC Standardized Video Interview: Applicant Preparation Guide\*](#) provides information to help applicants prepare for and complete the video interview. This resource includes practice strategies, sample questions, and best practices for managing video technology.

Please share these resources with your students applying to ACGME-accredited emergency medicine programs.

We encourage applicants, along with their advisors, to prepare early for the Standardized Video Interview. As with in-person interviews, effective preparation strategies include mock-interviews, reviewing curriculum vitae, and reflection on how best to respond to behavioral and situational questions. We want to strongly emphasize that interview scores are based on the content of the responses, not the appearance of the applicant or the environment in which the applicant completes the interview. Professional video production is unnecessary.

The [Standardized Video Interview](#) has been developed as part of the AAMC's efforts to improve the [transition to residency](#) process.

Questions should be directed to [residencyinterview@aamc.org](mailto:residencyinterview@aamc.org)

Thank you for your continued support,

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