Guidance Statement from the Association of Program Directors in Vascular Surgery Regarding the 2022/2023 Application Cycle

While our medical institutions and training programs continue to adapt to fluctuations and changes related to the COVID-19 pandemic, many still have restrictions on students, faculty, and staff, which may affect the 2022-2023 application cycle. In particular, medical student away rotations have been governed by local institutional and regional policies, as well as the ultimate process of residency interviews.

In response, the APDVS issues the following guidance to vascular surgery program directors in the United States regarding the upcoming application cycle for Integrated Vascular Surgery Residencies. The priorities in offering these recommendations are to promote an equitable and transparent application, interview, and match process, as well as to safeguard the vascular surgical education of medical students. In light of these priorities, our recommendations are as follows.

1. Program directors should demonstrate flexibility in both the number and types of letters of recommendation required for applying to their programs.
2. Programs should consider offering virtual rotations or experiences to students who are unable to participate in person.
3. Program directors should review the recently published AAMC recommendations (place link here) and their institutional GME regulations.

While the situation is constantly evolving surrounding interviews, the APDVS will continue to monitor and will periodically issue further recommendations to promote a safe and equitable match process.