



[A Retrospective Cohort Study of the Effect of Home Institution on Emergency Medicine Standardized Letters of Evaluation](#)

Residency recruitment season is upon us. For residency and clerkship directors, this means not only reviewing hundreds of ERAS<sup>®</sup> (Electronic Residency Application Service<sup>®</sup>) applications to find those few individuals who might be a good fit for a residency class, but also writing a Standardized Letter of Evaluation (SLOE) for each rotating student. Student applications typically have two SLOEs, one from the home institution and one from an away rotation, and some have three or more. Many of us who make interview and ranking decisions rely heavily on the SLOEs, originally created in 1997 as an objective, concise, and discerning tool to compare applicants for those characteristics that may predict future success as emergency physicians. Despite multiple revisions over the years, the SLOE is far from perfect. In [this issue's editor-in-chief pick](#), Boysen-Osborn et al. assess the effect of home institution on SLOEs and quantify writers' adherence to ranking assignments of applicants to their residency program over a two-year period using the current eSLOE form. While their results may not be too surprising, I encourage you to read this article and keep their findings in mind as you write the SLOEs, advise students, and appraise applications during this year's residency recruitment season. Happy recruiting!

Respectfully,

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Editor  
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