



Supplemental ERAS Application Pilot Update

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Current environment

- Program staff struggling to determine true applicant interest
- Applicants struggling to understand what programs are truly looking for and how many programs do they “need” to apply to
- Calls for a paradigm shift in residency selection
 - Alternative and supplemental applications
 - Signaling
 - Early match programs
 - Co-release of interview invitations with designated response times
 - Application and/or interview caps (misperception of AAMC conflict of interest regarding application caps)

AAMC is exploring several strategies

- “Apply Smart” campaign
 - Point of Diminishing Returns
- Residency Explorer
- Careers in Medicine
- Supplemental ERAS Application Pilot
 - Preference signaling
- ENT preference signaling evaluation
- Application caps (research only)



Focus of my presentation



Our Approach

- Principles for evaluating these ideas
 - Equity
 - No harm
 - Add value
 - Evidence-based
- Thorough testing
- Evaluating timing of the cycle and pace of the project to determine the optimal deployment time. (balancing when we can actually launch with how long it takes to get people ready for it and the impact that has on its success)
- Stakeholder involvement
- Clear, timely communication along the way

SuppApp: Goals

- **Update questions** on the ERAS application to reflect current context
- Help applicants share **more information about themselves and their medical education journey**
- ***Drive holistic review in a high-volume application context*** by providing better information about applicants':
 - work, volunteer, and research experiences;
 - geographic information; and
 - work setting preferences.

Try out new content in a separate environment from myERAS and the PDWS to learn about what adds value before changing technology

Supplemental ERAS Application



Prior work,
volunteer, &
research
experiences

(Available to
Programs)



Geographic
Information

(Available to
Programs; Not
available to
General Surgery)



Preference
Signal

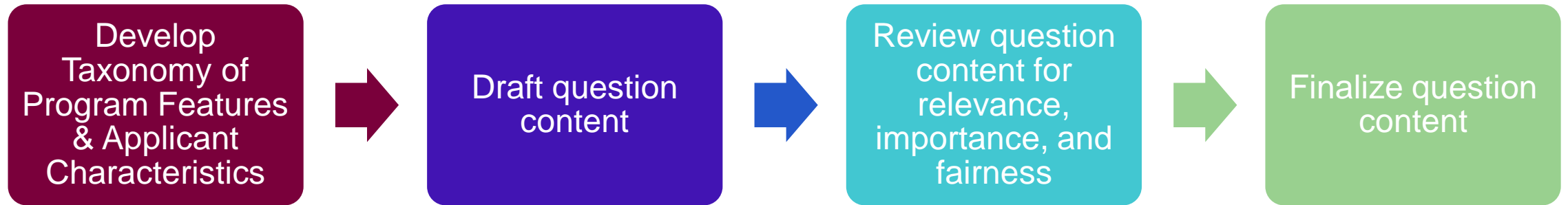
(Available to
Programs)



Work
Preferences

(Research only)

Development process



AAMC collaborated with subject matter experts in the medical community throughout

- Over 20 focus groups or interviews
- Over 100 program directors & coordinators, student affairs, and residents

SuppApp: Testing new MyERAS questions

ERAS 2022 cycle

- 3 specialties
 - Dermatology
 - General Surgery
 - Internal Medicine (Categorical, Preliminary)
- 719 programs
- Open Sept 1-Sept 30 (~27K invited, ~ 24K submitted)
- Opened to PDs on Sept 29th (~2500 users)
 - Weekly updates through Dec 2021

SuppApp: Evaluation

Fairness

- Item analysis
- Access to prep materials and advising

Psychometrics and Validity

- Item analysis
- Interview invitations
- Interviewer ratings of interest and alignment

PD Reactions

- Survey and focus groups
 - Use of tool
 - Added value
 - Ease of use

Applicant & Advisor Reactions

- Survey and focus groups
 - Clarity
 - Preparation
 - Time spent
 - Strategy

SuppApp: Timeline (tentative)

