

Writing Sample Instructions

Applicants will write a 700-1000 word summary and analysis of an article published in the *Journal of Midwifery and Women's Health* within the past year, using proper APA formatting. Applicants who have previously published an article may submit this in lieu of a writing sample. This writing sample will be a significant element of the applicant's portfolio, particularly if the applicant submits a writing sample in lieu of the GRE. Guidelines for this writing sample are given below.

1. Choose one quantitative OR qualitative research article published in the *Journal of Midwifery and Women's Health* within the past year. Give enough detail so that your readers will be able to understand the methods used as well as the results. This should take 1-2 paragraphs of text. Include information on the study objective, sample & sample size, methods, such as measurements and statistics used, results, and authors' conclusions. This is an objective summary of the research article.
2. In another paragraph or so, critique the study's strengths and limitations. Identify several strengths and weaknesses and comment on how the weaknesses might be improved. Now add your ideas to the mix. Do you agree with the authors' conclusions, why or why not? Then link this research to the discipline of midwifery. How does this research contribute to midwifery?
3. Give the full citation in APA style.