Reapplicant checklist

NOTE: Early submission of your primary application is vital. Late submission gives the impression that you did not make your application a priority.

Admission to health professional schools depends upon a number of different factors. It is important that you do a thorough inventory of your strengths and weaknesses from your first application and reflect upon what you have done to address any weaknesses. This form is designed to help you be sure you have improved your application before you reapply.

☐ Apply early
☐ Be sure to apply widely to both MD and DO schools
☐ Update your personal statement to reflect your growth in the past year
☐ Retake MCAT if score was non-competitive. Do not panic if you cannot retake the MCAT by the time you submit your primary application. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, dates for MCAT can be later than we would recommend in non-pandemic years and scores are anticipated to be available more rapidly. Take the test only when you are as certain as possible that you can make any needed improvements in your score.
☐ Be sure you have increased or continued to obtain clinical experience since your last application. It will be understood that during spring 2020 and possibly the summer that will be almost impossible but, hopefully, you were able to gain experience between when you previously applied and when you will reapply and also in the coming months when restrictions will hopefully ease up.
☐ If your grades were a problem for your previous application, what have you done to address that issue? It may be additional undergraduate or graduate coursework but if you know your grades were not competitive the last time you applied; you need do something to show an ability to improve.
☐ Obtain at least one, preferably more, new letters of recommendation and/or have previous letters updates when appropriate. You definitely want letters that give some reflection of what you have been doing since you last applied. These can include academic, clinical, work, research and other experiences. You do not need an entirely new packet of letters, but you should have a minimum of one new letter.
☐ Did you obtain any interviews in the previous cycle? If so, were you comfortable with your performance? If you want tips on improving your performance and a mock interview, you may want to contact Rutgers Career Explorations and Success. Here is their web site: https://careers.rutgers.edu/
☐ Remember, you want to show schools specific ways your application this year is different and has improved for this cycle.