March 2016

Dear Applicant:

We are pleased that you are considering applying to the Spring 2016 Early Assurance Program (EAP) at Loyola University Chicago. EAP is an opportunity for the top pre-medical students of the sophomore cohort (second-year student) to be conditionally accepted into the designated first-year class (2018) at the Stritch School of Medicine (SSOM).

This cover letter highlights some important aspects of the EAP application process. Included with this cover letter is an overview of the EAP which provides, among other things, a summary of program eligibility; requirements; and criteria typically used, at least in part, to select candidates for admission to SSOM. Also included with this cover letter are the EAP application (History Sheet, Data Sheet, Essay Questions) and the EAP Evaluation Form to accompany letters of evaluation which are sent directly to the recommenders electronically via email once the request has been made from your application on the Pre-Health application database (PHad). Please make sure you attend to all details in this cover letter and in all attached materials. You will also need to invest considerable time and thought in completing this application. Remember that your work will be judged on both its content and form.

The EAP Lake Shore Campus Committee on Admissions reviews every application completed by the deadlines. That is, all the materials for which you are directly responsible, as well as the required letters of evaluation, that have been received by the posted deadlines. The Committee will assess each candidate to see that all eligibility requirements are satisfied, evaluate the quality of the candidacies of eligible applicants, and select candidates for interviews at Loyola’s Lake Shore Campus. Interviews will likely be held anytime late-April to mid-May. Students’ class and final exam schedules will be taken into consideration when planning interview times.

Following the interview, the EAP Lake Shore Campus Selection Committee will conduct a summative evaluation of each candidate and forward their top candidates (maximum of ten) to the SSOM Committee on Admissions during summer 2016. The SSOM Committee on Admissions may invite none, some, or all of these candidates for a series of interviews, which typically occur in August but are subject to change. Candidates who succeed in this final stage will be guaranteed acceptance into the designated first-year class at SSOM (contingent upon fulfilling requirements outlined in the attached overview and any subsequent communication from SSOM).

With the completed application you must submit a photograph and three (3) required letters of evaluation: two (2) from Loyola science faculty and one (1) from a professional in a post-secondary medically-related experience in which the applicant was/is engaged. An optional fourth letter of evaluation may also be submitted. Specifically, this fourth letter may serve as a second clinical letter or a research letter, but it cannot take the place of any of the three required letters of evaluation. Letters of evaluation from relatives will be ignored. Letters of evaluation from co-workers of relatives will also not be accepted. Letters of evaluation should be submitted directly from the evaluators electronically via the application database. Please first make your request in person to your evaluators for confirmation a letter will be provided. Upon confirmation, notify the recommender an electronic request will be sent via email which will include the student’s waiver selection of confidentiality,
recommendations and guidelines for reference. Instructions for uploading the completed letter will also be included.

In order to be considered for EAP, you must submit your completed application no later than 5:00 pm on Friday, April 29, 2016. The deadline for receipt of letters of evaluation is 5:00 pm, Friday, May 20, 2016. It is the responsibility of each candidate to confirm that letters of evaluation have been received by the Pre-Health Professions Program Office.

You may immediately begin working on your responses to the essay questions, requesting letters of evaluation, etc. The EAP Application will be available on the Pre-Health application database (https://forms.luc.edu/prehealth/login/login) and the final version of your EAP Application must be submitted electronically via this route.

Please contact our office at 773-508-3636 if you have any questions about any aspects of the EAP Application or the electronic submission process. We look forward to working with you!

On behalf of the EAP Lake Shore Campus Committee on Admission,

James M. Johnson, Ph.D.

Chair, Early Assurance Program Lake Shore Campus Selection Committee (2018 year of admission)