

GEORGE J. MITCHELL PEACE SCHOLARSHIP

Maine-Ireland Post-Secondary Student Exchange

Application for the 2023-2024 Academic Year

Applications due on March 1, 2023

Interviews with finalist candidates will take place in early April, 2023

Selection of scholarship recipients Mid-April, 2023

The George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship honors the Northern Ireland peace accord brokered by Senator Mitchell between the governments and peoples of Ireland and the United Kingdom. The accord was reached on Good Friday, April 10, 1998, and accepted by vote of the citizens of Ireland and Northern Ireland on May 22, 1998.

The Peace Scholarship is an agreement between Maine and Ireland for a student exchange at the University level. During the 2023-2024 academic year, students from Maine will be in residence in the city of Cork on the south coast of Ireland, at the University College Cork of the National University of Ireland. The first Peace Scholarship exchanges took place during the 1999-2000 academic year.

One academic year or two one-semester scholarships will be awarded per year.

*Each student selected for this exchange will be named a **George J. Mitchell Exchange Scholar**.*

Eligibility

- Be age 18 or older and be eligible for international travel at the time of the exchange.
- Be a U.S. Citizen.
- Be a Maine resident for at least one year by the application deadline (paying in-state tuition).
- Have demonstrated leadership skills and a commitment to community service.
- Be a full-time, matriculated, undergraduate student at the University of Maine or University of Maine at Machias.
- Have successfully completed 24 credits in residence by the application deadline. AP, early college and transfer credits are not considered.
- Have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

Application Checklist

- () Application form
- () Essay
- () Resume
- () Official University transcript
- () Two letters of recommendation
- () Your academic advisor's signature
- () Award Agreement

Award and Award Period

Scholarship recipients will participate in the exchange at the [University College Cork](#) (UCC) in Cork, on the south coast of Ireland, within one year after receiving the award. For example, if you are announced as a Peace Scholarship awardee in spring 2023 for a one-semester period, your exchange period would begin either in fall 2023 or spring 2024 for one academic semester only. If you are awarded an academic year scholarship, your exchange period would begin in fall 2023 and last through spring 2024.

During the Covid-19 pandemic study abroad is cancelled and students will be allowed to travel to Ireland once conditions allow. Travel will resume when US Department of State and CDC travel level for Ireland returns to normal, and border restrictions are lifted.

The scholarship covers:

- tuition and fees for a minimum of 12 and maximum of 15 credits per semester (UCC)
- university housing (UCC)
- meal stipend (UCC)
- airfare stipend of \$1,000 (UMaine)

Students who are awarded the scholarship should budget for:

- additional meal costs
- textbook costs
- international travel and health insurance
- Irish immigration card
- personal expenses

Course Selection and Transfer Credits

Courses are called “modules” and majors are called “courses” in Ireland. The University College Cork offers an extensive list of courses, or “modules” as they are called in Ireland, for visiting U.S. students. The Irish modules are listed in the ECTS system (European Credit Transfer System). A full load of modules per semester is 60 UCC credits, which is equivalent to 15 U.S. credits.

Prior to submitting this application, you are required to identify the courses you want to take in Ireland, and your planned coursework must be approved by your University academic advisor, who must also sign this application. Even though your advisor will have approved the courses you intend to take in Ireland, you’ll want to bring syllabi and coursework home with you, in case there are questions concerning transfer of credit. If you are awarded this exchange scholarship, you must file the appropriate study abroad forms at your home university. For more information regarding forms and transfer credit, contact Erika L. Clement, Assistant Director of Education Abroad, at studyabroad@maine.edu.

Expectations Following the Exchange

When you return from Ireland, you’ll be asked to complete a formal evaluation of your exchange experience. You will also be expected to share your experience formally and informally on campus and in the community (e.g. with future applicants, in international studies classes, at Rotary meetings, etc.).

Useful Websites

University College Cork (UCC) - www.ucc.ie

UCC Course Catalog - www.ucc.ie/admin/registrar/visiting/

U.S. Passport Services – <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports.html>

U.S. State Dept. – Before You Go - <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/go.html>

Mobility International USA for students with disabilities - www.miusa.org

Lonely Planet - Ireland – www.lonelyplanet.com/ireland

George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship Application

Maine - Ireland Post-Secondary Student Exchange, 2022 – 2023

All application materials **must be received** by the Scholarship Committee at the address below no later than **March 1, 2022**. Applications submitted after the deadline cannot be considered.

Electronic applications will be accepted. All electronic application materials, including reference letters, **must have handwritten signatures** and be e-mailed in PDF format (one file containing all documents) to studyabroad@maine.edu

E-mail or deliver to: George Mitchell Peace Scholarships Selection Committee, Office of International Programs, c/o Erika Clement, University of Maine, 300 Stodder Hall, Orono, ME 04469, studyabroad@maine.edu , Tel: 207-581-3437.

Application Checklist

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| () Application form | () Two letters of recommendation |
| () Essay | () Your academic advisor's signature |
| () Resume | () Award Agreement |
| () Official University transcript | |

Name: _____ MaineStreet ID: _____

Current address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Home address (if different from above): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Emergency contact:

Name: _____ Relationship to you: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Are you a US citizen? ☐ Yes ☐ No If no, what is your country of citizenship? _____

Are you a Maine Resident? ☐ Yes ☐ No If no, what is your state of residence? _____

Only students who are Maine residents are eligible for this scholarship. Residency is established at the time of application to UMaine or UMaine Machias.

Would you accept a scholarship for:

- ☐ Academic Year
☐ One Semester Only - ☐ Fall ☐ Spring ☐ Either

Do you have a valid passport? ☐ Yes ☐ No Expiration Date: _____

You must have a valid passport before you leave the United States which does not expire until 6 months after the program end date. See useful links for website.

Have you ever traveled to another country? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, where and for how long?

Educational status:

Currently attending the University of _____

Graduation month/year: _____ Cumulative GPA: _____

Major program of study: _____

Academic advisor: _____ Title: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Professional, community, or school activities/organizations, please include any offices held:

Recommendation Letters

UMaine or UMM faculty member who has taught you, attesting to your academic ability:

Name: _____ Title: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Community member attesting to your participation in community service:

Name: _____ Title: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Wish list of courses you would like to take at the University College Course in Ireland:

Course Code and Title	UCC Credit Hours

Essay

On separate paper, please explain, in 500 words or less and typed, why you feel you should be awarded a George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship. Include **(1)** how this exchange with Ireland will benefit you personally, **(2)** how it will contribute to your academic and career plans, **(3)** why and how you feel prepared to live and study in another culture, and in Ireland in particular, and **(4)** how you will use this experience to benefit others through leadership and community service.

Signatures

Scholarship applicant: I certify that the information given above is true and complete.

Name (please print)

Signature

Date

Academic advisor: I certify that the courses listed here have my approval and will, upon satisfactory completion, receive appropriate credit.

Name (please print)

Title

Signature

Date

The University of Maine System is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer and educational institution and complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

**George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship
Award Agreement**

(to be submitted with the application documents)

Recipient name

MaineStreet ID

Institution

As a recipient of the George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship Award for study at the University College Cork in Ireland during the 2022-2023 academic year, I have been recognized for my academic achievements, leadership potential and skills, and commitment to community service. I understand that upon successful completion of my exchange experience in Ireland, I will be named a George J. Mitchell Exchange Scholar. I further understand that successful completion requires my acceptance of the following conditions. By my signature, I indicate acceptance of these conditions.

Conditions for Acceptance of the Award:

- Enroll full-time (minimum of 12 credit hours) at the University College Cork each semester during the period of the award.
- Work with my study abroad advisor to meet all study abroad requirements at my home institution prior to departure.
- Have medical and accident insurance that covers me while abroad.
- Complete a formal evaluation of my exchange experience on return from Ireland.
- Share my exchange experience formally and informally on campus and in the community (e.g. with future applicants, in international studies classes, at campus study away fairs, Rotary meetings, etc.).
- Allow the University of Maine System to use my name, and the name of my hometown, and high school in publicity press releases.

Student's signature

Date