GEORGE J. MITCHELL PEACE SCHOLARSHIP

Maine-Ireland Post-Secondary Student Exchange

Application for the 2020-2021 Academic Year

Applications due on February 7, 2020

Interviews with finalist candidates will take place between mid-February and mid-March, 2020

Selection of scholarship recipients Mid-March, 2020

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 2020-2021 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 Farmington.
- 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 2020 for a one-semester period, your exchange period would begin either in fall 2020 or spring 2021 for one academic semester only. If you are awarded an academic year scholarship, your exchange period would begin in fall 2020 and last through spring 2021.

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)
- meal stipend of $1000 (Home UMS Campus)
- airfare stipend of $1,000 (Home UMS Campus)
- textbook stipend of $200 (Home UMS Campus)

Students who are awarded the scholarship should budget for:

- additional meal costs
- additional cost of textbooks
- 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 modules 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 the Mitchell Scholarship advisor on your campus.

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.).

Mitchell Scholarship Advisors

University of Maine: Orlina Boteva, Director, International Programs
University of Maine at Farmington: Lynne Eustis, Assistant Director, Global Education

Useful Websites

University College Cork (UCC) - www.ucc.ie
UCC Course Catalog - www.ucc.ie/admin/registrar/visiting/
University of Maine System (UMS) - www.maine.edu
U.S. State Dept. – Before You Go - http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/go.html
International Student ID Card – www.myisic.com
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, 2020 – 2021

All application materials must be received by the Chair of the George Mitchell Peace Scholarship Committee at the address below no later than February 7, 2019. 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 the committee chair.

E-mail or deliver to: George Mitchell Peace Scholarships Selection Committee, C/O Lynne Eustis, Assistant Director, Global Education, University of Maine at Farmington, 106 Fusion Space, 117 South Street, Farmington, ME 04938. leustis@maine.edu Tel: 207-778-7122

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 your UMS University.
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

UMS 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:

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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.

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Signature          Date

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

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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.
University of Maine System
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 2020-2021 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 UMS 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