

GEORGE J. MITCHELL PEACE SCHOLARSHIP

Maine-Ireland Post-Secondary Student Exchange

Application for the 2018-2019 Academic Year

Applications due on February 2, 2018

Interviews with finalist candidates will take place in the beginning of March, 2018

Selection of scholarship recipients Mid-March, 2018

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 2018-2019 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.

The University of Maine System will award one full scholarship or two one-semester scholarships 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 in the University of Maine System (UMS) and enrolled in a degree program.
- Have successfully completed 24 credits in residence at a UMS institution by the application deadline. AP 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 2017 for a one-semester period, your exchange period would begin either in fall 2017 or spring 2018 for one academic semester only. If you are awarded a full-year scholarship, your exchange period would begin in fall 2017 and last through spring 2019.

The scholarship covers:

- tuition and fees for a minimum of 12 credits and maximum of 15 credits per semester
- housing in a residence hall
- a meal stipend of \$1,000
- airfare stipend of \$1,000
- textbook stipend of \$200

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: Lauryl Cookson, Study Abroad Advisor, International Programs
University of Southern Maine: Kaoru Phillips, Assistant Director of International Programs
University of Maine at Augusta: Kay Retzlaff, Associate Professor of English
University of Maine at Farmington: Lynne Eustis, Assistant Director, International Programs
University of Maine at Fort Kent: Mariella Squire, Associate Professor of Anthropology
University of Maine at Machias: Stuart Swain, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
University of Maine at Presque Isle: Leslie Williams, Asst. Director, Student Support Services

Useful Websites

University College Cork (UCC) - www.ucc.ie
UCC Course Catalog - www.ucc.ie/en/international/visiting/modules/
University of Maine System (UMS) - www.maine.edu
U.S. Passport Services – travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/passports.html
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, 2018 – 2019

All application materials must be received by the Chair of the George Mitchell Peace Scholarship Committee at the address below no later than **February 2, 2018**. 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 to the committee chair.

E-mail or deliver to: George Mitchell Peace Scholarships Selection Committee, C/O Kaoru Phillips, Assistant Director, Office of International Programs, University of Southern Maine, 101 Payson Smith Hall, 96 Falmouth Street, Portland, ME 04103, Ph: 207-780-4958, kphil50@maine.edu

Application Checklist

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application form | <input type="checkbox"/> Two letters of recommendation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Essay | <input type="checkbox"/> Your academic advisor's signature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resume | <input type="checkbox"/> Award Agreement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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:

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.

**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 for the 2018-2019 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 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

**University of Maine System
George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship
Maine-Ireland Post-Secondary Student Exchange
Protocol and Timeline**

- September, 2017:** Announcements and application packets available on campuses and at System Office website.
- February 2, 2018:** Due date for completed applications to be received by Office of the International Programs, University of Maine.
- February 5-9, 2018:** USM (Office of International Programs, University of Southern Maine) will circulate copies of all complete applications to members of Selection Committee*.
- February 24, 2018:** All applications will have been reviewed and finalist candidates selected by the Committee.
- Early March 2018:** Finalist candidate interviews at location to be determined.
- Mid-March, 2018:** Selection of Scholarship recipient(s) made.

* Selection Committee includes Study Abroad Advisor at the University of Maine, Assistant Director of International Programs at the University of Southern Maine, and Assistant Director of International and Exchange Programs at the University of Maine at Farmington.

AUG 2017