

# **GEORGE J. MITCHELL PEACE SCHOLARSHIP**

## **Maine-Ireland Post-Secondary Student Exchange**

---

### **2010 Application for the 2010-2011 Academic Year**

---

***Applications due on February 8, 2010***

***Selection of scholarship recipients by April 10, 2010***

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 Technical College and University level. During the 2010-2011 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 Maine Community College System and the University of Maine System will each award one full scholarship or two one-semester scholarships per year.*

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

## **George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship Requirements: University of Maine System Applicants**

### ***University of Maine System Applicants must:***

- Be age 18 or older and be eligible for international travel at the time of the exchange.
- Must be a U.S. Citizen.
- Be a Maine resident for at least one year by the application deadline.
- 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, or be an immediate past graduate (have graduated no more than one year prior to the exchange year).
- Have successfully completed at least one semester of University study.
- Have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher.
- Have health insurance coverage throughout the exchange period.
- Submit a complete application by the due date, including:
  - whether you're applying for the exchange for one semester or for a full academic year;
  - the courses you want in Ireland and how they will link to your study/career plans here;
  - an explanation of why you want to participate in the exchange;
  - a brief explanation of why/how you feel prepared to live and study in another culture and in Ireland in particular;
  - a complete and up-to-date resumé;
  - your most recent college transcript;
  - two letters of recommendation, including one from a college faculty member who has taught you, attesting to your academic ability, and one from a community member attesting to your participation in community service; and
  - two signatures: yours and that of your faculty advisor.
- File appropriate "Away" registration form at your UMS institution.

***Interviews with finalist candidates will take place in March 2010.***

### **Award Period**

Scholarship recipients will participate in the exchange within one year after receiving the award. For example, if you are announced as a Peace Scholarship awardee in spring 2010 for a one-semester period, your exchange period would begin either in fall 2010 or spring 2011 for one academic semester only. If you are awarded a full-year scholarship, your exchange period would begin in fall 2010 and last through spring 2011.

### **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.).

## **Participating Irish Post-Secondary Institutions**

During the 2010-2011 academic year, the George Mitchell Peace Scholarship recipient(s) in the University of Maine System will be in residence at **University College Cork (UCC)** in Cork, on the south coast of Ireland. If you are selected, you will be expected to take a full-time course load, either for the academic year or for the equivalent of one UMS semester. Irish terms do not coincide exactly with our academic semesters. The Mitchell Scholarship advisor on your campus will help you plan your schedule to accommodate these differences.

## **Course Selection**

If you are interested in this exchange program, you should learn about the participating Irish institutions, their course offerings (see websites below), and which of those courses might align with your home University program and future plans. 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 an "Away" registration form. For more information regarding UMS credit and registration, contact the Mitchell Scholarship advisor on your campus.

## **Mitchell Scholarship Advisors**

University of Maine: Karen Boucias, Director of International Programs

University of Southern Maine: Larisa Kruze, Assistant Director of International Programs

University of Maine at Augusta: Wendy Hazard, Assistant Professor of History

University of Maine at Farmington: Lynne Eustis, Assistant Director of International and Exchange Programs

University of Maine at Fort Kent: Mary Ella Squire, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Social Science

University of Maine at Machias: Stuart Swain, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs

University of Maine at Presque Isle: Charles Bonin, Vice President, Administration and Finance

## **Useful Websites**

University College Cork (UCC) - <http://www.ucc.ie>

University of Maine System (UMS) - <http://www.maine.edu>

Maine Community College System (MCCS) - <http://www.mtcs.net>

U.S. State Department/U.S. Embassies and Consulates - <http://usembassy.state.gov/>

U.S. State Department/Passport Services –

[http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport\\_1738.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html)

U.S. Customs Service "Know Before You Go" –

<http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/travel/vacation/kbyg/>

International Student ID Card – <http://www.myisic.com>

Microsoft Expedia airfare searches& general travel information -

<http://www.expedia.msn.com>

Mobility International USA for students with disabilities - <http://www.miusa.org>

Holiday Ireland – <http://nci.ie/holiday>

**University of Maine System  
George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship  
Award Agreement**

---

Recipient name

National ID

Institution

As a recipient of the George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship Award for study at the:

---

for the 2010-2011 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 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 host Irish institution each semester during the period of the award.
- 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*

*Name*

*Date*

**George J. Mitchell Peace Scholarship  
Maine - Ireland Post-Secondary Student Exchange, 2010 - 2011  
Application: University of Maine System**

---

***All application materials from University of Maine System students must be received by Karen Boucias, Director of International Programs and National Student Exchange and Chair of the George Mitchell Peace Scholarship Committee, at the University of Maine at the address below no later than February 8, 2010. Applications submitted after the deadline cannot be considered. Blank forms may be copied but signatures must be original. Please note: Faxed applications cannot be accepted.***

Mail or deliver to: George Mitchell Peace Scholarships Selection Committee  
C/O Karen Boucias, Director  
Office of International Programs  
University of Maine  
100 Winslow Hall  
Orono, Maine 04469  
Telephone: 207-581-3433  
Email: karen.boucias@umit.maine.edu

***Would you accept a scholarship for one semester? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Fall \_\_\_ Spring \_\_\_***

***Would you accept a scholarship for the full academic year? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_***

**Legal name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle initial Last

**Current address:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street PO Box

\_\_\_\_\_  
City or town Zip code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime telephone Evening telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fax (if available) E-mail address

**Home address (if different from above)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street PO Box

\_\_\_\_\_  
City or town Zip code

**National ID:** \_ \_ - \_ - \_ - \_ - \_

**Emergency contact:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to you: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Evening telephone

**Do you have health and accident insurance that will cover you while you're abroad?**

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

**Do you have a valid passport?** Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

*You must have a valid passport before you leave the United States.*

**Are you a US citizen?** Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If no what is your country of citizenship?

\_\_\_\_\_ **Have you ever traveled to another country?** Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If so, where? For how long?

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Educational status:**

Currently attending the University of \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation month/year \_\_\_\_\_

GPA \_\_\_\_\_

Major program of study:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Academic advisor \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fax

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address

**List your professional, community, or school activities/organizations.** Include any offices held.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**How do you plan to incorporate these courses into your educational and/or career plans?**

---

---

---

---

**Attachments:**

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.

**Resume:** (complete and up-to-date)

**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

### **Complete application checklist --**

- Course list and link to education/career
- Essay
- Resume
- University transcript
- Two letters of recommendation
- Your signature
- Your academic advisor's signature

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

**Protocol and Timeline**

---

---

- September 25, 2009:** Announcements and application packets available on campuses and at System Office.
- February 8, 2010:** Due date for completed applications to be received by Office of the Director of International Programs, University of Maine.
- February 9,10, 11, 12, 2010:** UM (Office of the Director of International Programs, University of Maine) will circulate copies of all complete applications to members of Selection Committee\*.
- March 1, 2010:** All applications will have been reviewed and finalist candidates selected by the Committee.
- During March 2010:** Finalist candidate interviews at location to be determined
- By March 16, 2010:** Committee prepares to choose recipient(s).
- April 10, 2010:** Selection of Scholarship recipient(s) made on the anniversary of Good Friday 1998 – date Peace Accord was signed.
- Around May 22, 2010:** Presentation of awards on or around May 22 – anniversary of 1998 date of ratification of Peace Accord.

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