# Mitchell Scholarship

## Fellowships Program Information Sheet

**Updated: 3-7-19**

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<th>1. Award</th>
<th>Recipients of the Mitchell Scholarship are chosen for their scholarship, leadership, and commitment to community and public service and are funded (full tuition, accommodation, a monthly stipend for living and travel expenses) for 12 mos. of postgraduate study, in any discipline offered by institutions in Ireland.</th>
<th><a href="https://www.us-irelandalliance.org/mitchellscholarship">https://www.us-irelandalliance.org/mitchellscholarship</a></th>
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<td>Programs in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland will be open to fall 2018 applicants.</td>
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## Eligibility

**Candidates must be US citizens between the ages of 18 and 30, who have completed a bachelor’s degree at an accredited university. A strong GPA is required (~ 3.8 is typical of strong applicants), but community involvement and related academic engagement are also essential.**

[https://www.us-irelandalliance.org/mitchellscholarship/applicants/eligibility](https://www.us-irelandalliance.org/mitchellscholarship/applicants/eligibility)

## Timing

**Demonstrate competitiveness and express interest no later than spring semester of junior year. Smith will nominate one or two highly qualified candidates each year. Plan to work on your application during the summer before your application is due.**

The application must be completed for external submission by late September. Internal submission of final draft and letters of recommendation will be required no later than early September.

## Selection Criteria

**This foundation is looking to serve and support students who not only demonstrate academic excellence, but also leadership and initiative in community service. This is broadly, not loosely defined, meaning that personal agency and commitment speak more to driven and independent students compared to those who might meet some theoretical mold.**

The application includes a short video interview, completed after the rest of the application has been submitted.

In Fall 2018 370 applied for 12 Mitchell Scholarships (3.2%). 20 finalists are interviewed (60% chance at that stage).

## Smith Role

**Smith must officially endorse all applicants. Applicants will be subject to internal application and deadlines. A pre-application to confirm Smith endorsement may be required in the spring preceding external application.**

Faculty advice and support is essential as students select likely courses of study that fit well with past experience and future plans. Four letters of recommendation from individuals who know the applicant well are essential.

## Fun fact(s)

- US Senator George Mitchell, for whom the program was named, represented Maine and served as Chairman of the peace negotiations in Northern Ireland 1996-2000.
- Graduate study in Northern Ireland may also be supported by a Marshall Scholarship or Fulbright Partnership Award. Graduate study in the Republic of Ireland may also be supported by a Fulbright award.

No GRE is required.

## How to get started

Since this fellowship requires institutional endorsement, your first step is to reach out to the Fellowships Program to express interest and discuss the possibilities and strategy of your application. Please contact mlamb@smith.edu or call the Lazarus Center to make an appointment x2582.

Talk with a fellowships adviser to confirm that your achievements, activities, and interest align well with this fellowship opportunity. If yes, explore Irish university programs that suit your interests and plans: You are recommended to choose at least three programs at three different universities, and you may list as many as five. More about Irish universities and program options [here](https://www.us-irelandalliance.org/mitchellscholarship/about).