

Fellowships Program Information Sheet – Mitchell Scholarship

Updated: 8-25-2021

Section	Brief description	More information
1. Award	The Mitchell Scholarship's goal is “to provide tomorrow's leaders with an understanding about, an interest in, and an affinity for the island of Ireland.” Recipients 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.	https://www.us-irelandalliance.org/mitchellscholarship Programs in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland are open to applicants.
2. Eligibility	Candidates must be US citizens between 18 and 29 at application time, who have completed a bachelor's degree at an accredited university. A strong GPA or other demonstration of academic excellence is essential, and must complement a strong community-involvement track record and related academic engagement.	Eligibility Note: The application includes a short video interview, completed after the rest of the application has been submitted.
3. Timing	Demonstrate competitiveness and express interest no later than spring semester of application 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 the start of September.
4. 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 defined, meaning that evidence of personal agency and commitment, drive and independence are important.	In Fall 2020 453 applied for 12 Mitchell Scholarships (2.6%). 20 finalists are typically interviewed (60% chance at that stage). 2020 press release and profile of scholars.
5. Smith Role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Smith must endorse all applicants who are current students. 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. - Smith alums may apply directly without endorsement, but are encouraged to reach out to advisers for feedback and support. 	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.
6. Fun fact(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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. A Fulbright Study Award may support graduate study in both the UK and the Republic of Ireland. 	About George J. Mitchell No GRE is required.
7. How to get started	Since this fellowship requires institutional endorsement, your first step is to reach out to the Fellowships & Postgraduate Scholarships Program to express interest and discuss the possibilities and strategy for your application. Please contact mlamb@smith.edu .	Talk with a fellowships adviser to confirm that your achievements, activities, and interests 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 .