

Dear Manager of the Summer Intern Programme,

I am writing to apply for the ByrneWallace LLP Summer Internship. My name is Cillian Mulraney, and I am a first-year M.A. in Common Law student at University College Dublin. I graduated with a First Class Honours in my B.A. degree (History and Philosophy) at UCD in Spring 2022. I initially became interested in working at ByrneWallace while researching the most reputable commercial law firms in Ireland. I was drawn to the sheer diversity of legal expertise in which the company specialises in. Testimonials from current employees, former interns, and clients guided me towards the excellent service and employment conditions one could expect with the firm. Working with a multidisciplinary team at ByrneWallace would prove to be massively beneficial for my ultimate career prospects in commercial law.

My legal interests reside primarily within the realm of corporate litigation and advocacy. I am determined in uplifting the voices of marginalised groups in law and promoting legal education to aspiring students from underrepresented areas. I am a first-generation college student from a DEIS secondary school, alongside being a transgender man. The intersection of these identities has provided me with a unique perspective in law and has informed my personal philosophy for empathy and inclusion. Actively, I am a student advisor on AHEAD and USI's disability board and I help to guide their strategy on student accessibility across third-level education. This collaborative role has strengthened my interpersonal and analytical reasoning skills. I also engage with Community Mentoring through the College Awareness programme to increase equity of access for communities in Dublin. My recent duties have involved delivering resources to mature students attending Pearse College in Crumlin to foster their interest in law. The values of ByrneWallace align with my own personal philosophy, as the firm is a member of the Law Society's Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (GEDI) Charter. It is imperative that I work with a law firm that champions historically underrepresented voices like my own, and ByrneWallace recognises the necessity of this inclusion in their policies.

My academic credentials, ongoing advocacy work, and distinctive life experiences will enable me to make a valuable contribution to the ByrneWallace legal team. I am an ambitious individual who enjoys roles of responsibility and working alongside a team. I serve as the Class Representative for the M.A. in Common Law course which requires mediation, effective communication, and conflict resolution. I am highly detail-oriented and methodical in my work, and I practice good time management. My background in history provided a strong foundation for acquiring skills such as problem-solving, interpreting evidence, and critical debate. Minor in philosophy allowed me to develop a personal understanding of jurisprudence and applied ethical procedure in law. An internship with ByrneWallace would provide me with the opportunity to gain practical experience in the field and allow me to utilise these skills that I have developed through academia and community work. The exposure to commercial litigation in practice would be an invaluable experience for me and pave the way for my future career as a solicitor. Further, this internship complements my ongoing Master's degree and would facilitate my learning in preparation for my final year of legal studies.

Thank you for your time, and for your consideration of my candidacy. I look forward to hearing back with your decision.

Warm regards,
Cillian Mulraney