

Dear Recruitment Team,

Byrne Wallace has a broad practice which heightens the appeal of the Firm's internship programme, given the opportunities it offers for insight into the legal profession, however I am particularly interested in the Firm's financial services team and its status as one of Ireland's most experienced teams in the area.

The Firm's focus on technology is also important to me, and the skills I have gained in data management systems such as excel, python and stata as part of the MSc Finance (Banking and Risk Management) modules would make an addition to this aspect of the Firm's skillset.

I have graduated from law at UCC (67%, 2023) and I have completed two of the FE-1 exams, I have at the time of writing, completed one week of legal work experience which I undertook in fourth year of secondary school.

I plan on qualifying as a solicitor in the coming years and would be extremely grateful if I could learn more about the profession through the internship programme, before applying for the Firm's training contract.

Ultimately, the role of solicitor appeals to me on the level of the skills involved, research, negotiation and critical thinking, moreover the needs of the Firm's clients align with my interest in economics and finance, a passion which I have built on through undertaking a master's degree in Finance at UCC.

Regarding academics and university accomplishments, I have attained two academic awards from UCC, and undertaken a significant amount of voluntary work related to the UCC Philosophical Society (a debating society) as Internal-Convenor and as of the current term, Events and Accessibility officer. In the past academic year I reached the semi-finals of the Irish Times competition and took part in the Irish Mace competition. Other extracurricular activities included travelling to the University of Ghent with a group from UCC's Law Society to take part in a business negotiation competition, another area of the Firm's practice which is of significant interest to me.

Outside of the academic context, I have part-time work experience as a tour guide (at Elizabeth Fort and the Old Cork Waterworks Experience) and careers ambassador for UCC's Careers Service. These experiences built my work ethic and attention to detail. Working as a tour guide relied on my intellectual curiosity and ability to learn about the sites I worked at.

I am an equity analyst as part of the Student Managed Fund competition from which I have gained further insight and commercial awareness.

In short I feel that Byrne Wallace offers a very strong opportunity for personal development and represents clients in practice areas which I have a strong interest in. I would be very grateful for any consideration given to this letter and the accompanying CV document.

Yours sincerely,
Michael Duffy

