

Dear hiring manager,

My name is Eddie O'Rourke and I am a final year law student in University College Cork. This is my application for a place in Byrne Wallace's summer internship programme.

Upon completion of my leaving cert in 2015 I fell short of the required CAO points to do law, so I decided, after the initial disappointment, to re-sit my leaving cert, and thankfully my persistence was rewarded the second time around. I am currently half way through my final year of my law degree. I feel like I am going from strength to strength with my results correlating this, as they have improved each semester. I have just recently completed the first half of my final year exams and am delighted with how they went. I have no doubt I will be able to keep this momentum going and hopefully achieve a first-class honours grade in total for this final year. Momentum was the main factor in me deciding to do the three-year BCL course rather than the four-year course with the option of a year of study abroad or a year of work placement. I am coming off the back of a great summer, in which I spent eight weeks as a legal intern with Healy Crowley Ahern solicitors. By its conclusion I genuinely had learned as much as I could've hoped to learn in a modest sized legal firm. In fact, I do believe I may have benefitted more from starting my legal experience with a small, local firm. I had unlimited access to the principal of the firm, Mr Colm Kelly, who became an excellent mentor to me I hope that that internship can be used as a stepping stone platform for myself, and that I can improve on my experience of legal working life this summer with Byrne Wallace.

Naturally, as one of the top law firms in the country, Byrne Wallace is an obviously attractive firm from a graduate's point of view. I attended the Byrne Wallace career event earlier in the college year and was able to meet some of the Byrne Wallace representatives. By all accounts interns learn through practical, hands-on, challenging projects aimed at providing an insight into the working life of a trainee solicitor at Byrne Wallace. Of course, ultimately securing a traineeship with Byrne Wallace is the goal of most, if not all of the prospective interns. I am interested in the internship as both a way of gaining experience of what a possible traineeship might be like but also as a way of getting to meet the personnel at Byrne Wallace and hopefully being able to display my qualities and potential while making a positive, lasting impression. I have spoken mainly about what Byrne Wallace has to offer me by way of the quality experience provided for in the summer internship but what can I, Eddie O'Rourke, offer Byrne Wallace? Well by the summer 2019 I will be just after turning 22 years old and I will hopefully have a completed law degree. I will be able to offer Byrne Wallace the competent services of someone who has a law degree qualification with all such knowledge fresh in my mind. I am a young and enthusiastic person thirsting for more legal experience at a higher standard and larger scale to my previous summer internship. I also am keen to experience working life at a large corporate law firm as this is the career path that I am so very inclined in pursuing. In conclusion I feel that I can be a valuable asset to Byrne Wallace by way of the qualification I will have by the summer and because of my willingness and hunger to learn as much as I possibly can within the four weeks. I truly feel that this can be a mutually beneficial arrangement and not one sided in favouring the intern.

I am eager and excited at the prospect of hearing back from you all at Byrne Wallace, and hopefully meeting you. Thank you for reading my cover letter, and enclosed is my curriculum vitae. If there are any queries about my CV please feel free to contact me through the contact details I have provided below.

Sincerely,

Eddie O'Rourke