

LETTER OF APPLICATION

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to apply for the position of trainee solicitor.

My international commercial legal experience, my personality traits and my drive evident through my academic achievements and extracurricular activities demonstrate that I am an excellent candidate for the Byrne Wallace traineeship programme.

I hold a First Class Honours degree in Legal Studies, Sociology and Political Studies from NUI Galway and an LLM from Queen's University Belfast. I received a full scholarship of €15,000 from the Centre for Cross Border studies to complete my masters.

I am outgoing, friendly and enjoy meeting new people and embracing new ideas. I work best in a diverse environment. I am a problem solver and gain great enjoyment from figuring out clear steps to address complex issues. Identifying these personality traits in myself has led me to pursue a career as a commercial solicitor. The collaborative working environment which Byrne Wallace promotes attracted me to the firm.

I have a keen interest in travelling, having spent much of my time abroad since completing my masters. I am a graduate of the Washington Ireland Programme class of 2013, where I spent two months in Washington DC building leadership and service skills while completing a legal internship in the International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children.

Volunteering is an important part of my life. In 2015 I spent three months in northern Ghana working with a local NGO on a project to improve sexual health in rural communities. I have also been involved with Foróige, Ireland's largest youth organisation, for over 15 years as a member and volunteer leader. I was also elected to the national governing body of the organisation.

My current role as Legal Executive for the Knowledge Department in Mason Hayes and Curran has afforded me an interesting insight into the daily rigors of the legal profession. I work with the end product of client advices and legal opinions. I summarise, code, maintain and update the firms bank of know how and precedents and conduct research for fee earners. I am involved in the training processes within the firm, developing handbooks on topics including Execution of Documents and E-signatures.

Most recently I have been involved in a large project on GDPR processes within the firm which has fostered an interest in data protection legislation therefore I was intrigued by the international recognised standard for information security management which Byrne Wallace holds.

I am passionate about the role of technology in the legal practice. This was fueled by my work as part of the Knowledge Information Technology team in Maurice Blackburn Lawyers, Australia. I strive to work for a progressive law firm and Byrne Wallace is well recognised in this regard.

I believe that a traineeship will fundamentally shape my legal career and as such the ethos of Byrne Wallace appealed to me. I want to be in a firm that develops my technical legal knowledge and skills along with commercial and financial awareness. I will bring strong communication and interpersonal skills to the work effort and be a versatile and valuable asset to your firm as a whole.

Thank you for your consideration

Kind regards,
Maria Campbell