

Niamh Ní Shearcaigh

Final year LLB student

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30 September, 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am applying for the Byrne Wallace Graduate Programme. I am a final year student of the Bachelor of Laws (Clinical) degree in Maynooth University. My studies have provided a broad overview of law and I am keen to complement this with the practical experience that this internship offers. I have previous experience working in corporate law through a competitive work placement programme. This summer I also completed another internship working in wildlife justice in Malawi. My academic studies coupled with my varied experience to date make me an ideal candidate for this position.

I took up extra-curricular activities; both in relation to law and community volunteering. I competed in the Bréagchúirt Uí Dhálaigh moot court competition. I found the competition helped me greatly to develop essential skills, such as teamwork, researching, formulating and presenting arguments, and rebutting opponent's arguments. I also volunteered with 121 Digital in association with Age Action Ireland. 121 Digital partners volunteers with senior citizens to teach them basic IT skills. This was an enriching experience for both myself and the participants, while my role was to assist, I gained a lot from their life experience.

During my second year I secured a work placement with Matheson, based on both my academic record and interview. I spent the internship working in the Finance and Capital Markets department; more specifically, with teams in Banking and Structured Finance. Some of my duties comprised of drafting and proof-reading documents, research, and taking detailed meeting minutes on various large transactions involving multiple partners.

Following completion of my internship in Matheson, I undertook another internship in the field of wildlife justice with Lilongwe Wildlife Trust in Malawi. I worked on several projects, such as designing educational material for Malawian magistrates and creating a consolidation report of all national and international wildlife legislation which was published and circulated to the Malawian judiciary. It was a brilliant experience working in such a different environment, with challenges that one would not normally meet working in Ireland.

I look forward to hearing back and discussing my application in more detail.

Sincerely,
Niamh Ní Shearcaigh