

To whom it may concern,

I am a final year law and business student at Trinity College Dublin. I am applying to the ByrneWallace Trainee Programme as I am of the opinion that not only would participation in the trainee programme be beneficial to my development but my skills and experiences would also contribute to the organisation.

There are several characteristics of the ByrneWallace Trainee Programme and ByrneWallace that influenced my decision to apply for the traineeship. These include: the firm's culture, the structure and content of the trainee programme, the firm's reputation and the client base of the firm. ByrneWallace maintains a culture of innovation and excellence. Innovation and excellence are values that I personally aim to emulate and also believe to be integral to a firm's continued success. As an aspiring lawyer, a firm's future direction is a crucial factor to consider. The commitment of the firm to produce well-rounded skilled solicitors through the trainee programme is also apparent. The programme is structured to optimise the breadth of experience obtained by trainees and also is aimed at developing the trainees professionally by establishing a system of feedback and review of performance. The programme is also impressive due to its focus in educational development through the provision of classes that supplement education provided by the Law Society. The firm also has a reputation in the industry for its unmatched client focus. Having worked in different service firms, I am acutely aware of the importance of catering to a client's needs. ByrneWallace has received numerous awards confirming its positive reputation. Although ByrneWallace does not have international offices, unlike some of its competitors, the firm is committed to cater to clients who require international legal resources via its membership of AFLA International. ByrneWallace also has a large and varied client base, which exposes trainees to many interesting and complex legal issues. While I thoroughly enjoyed my previous legal experiences, I worked in niche areas which limited my experience in relation to legal issues and clients. In addition, ByrneWallace has a particularly strong client base in the life sciences sector. As I am particularly interested in this area, ByrneWallace seems to be a clear choice for a traineeship.

An additional and prominent reason for my application to this programme is due to a desire to pursue in corporate law. There are multiple reasons why I have decided to pursue a career in corporate law. These include: the challenging nature of the work, the dynamic and changing nature of the profession, the variety of the work and client base, the level of professional development and training obtained in corporate law firms and the suitability of the career to my personality. I enjoy intellectually challenging work and solving complex problems through the use of knowledge, collaboration, creativity and innovation is an appealing concept for me. The constantly changing nature of the work is also an attractive feature. In addition, I view the role of a corporate lawyer as an advisor and as I have an affinity towards helping people identify, analyse and solve their problems, I believe I would be successful in the corporate law sector.

Aside from my interest in the industry and the firm, I am suitable for this position as I possess the necessary skills and experience. The key skills that I possess and believe to be suited to this position are as follows: written and oral communication skills, legal research skills, commercial acumen and awareness and the ability to perform well in teams. Based on my experience as

secretary, and an intern in a corporate law firm, I am able to tailor my written communication to the intended audience and I am able to present a position in a clear concise manner. Through my experience in the Streetlaw programme and the Student Managed Fund (a student run asset management fund), I have gained strong oral communication and presentation skills. By teaching and pitching stocks in front of a large crowd of people I have learnt to be a confident public speaker. With regard to legal research, I have experience in researching cases, legal concepts, legislation, and upcoming changes in the political or economic sphere. I also possess commercial acumen and awareness. I am aware of the importance of business generation and retention, having not only seen this in a corporate law firm but also as the head of business development in AIESEC Dublin. Understanding clients and their needs is critical for both maintaining and improving financial performance. I have experience in viewing clients from different service perspectives: an investor's perspective, a tax advisor's perspectives and a corporate lawyer's perspective. This has provided me with a broad understanding of businesses. I also possess teamwork and interpersonal skills. I have the ability and experience of working with a diverse group of individuals. I have experience working with college students, summer interns, legal professionals, tax professionals and senior management. Having interned in busy professional environments, I have the ability and knowledge to work with those with busy schedules, those with short deadlines and those with different skillsets. My experience in working in teams has taught me how to build rapport and relationships with those I work with and those I work for.

In conclusion, I have the desire, enthusiasm and to contribute to your organisation. Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Faithfully,

Zainab Masood