

MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIPS

Criteria for Selection that should be addressed, as appropriate, in a letter of recommendation:

Scholarship

Academic excellence and intellectual distinction. Although the Scholars program does not require a minimum GPA, it is understood that a prospective candidate must have the academic ability and preparation to succeed in a postgraduate program.

Leadership

An outstanding record of leadership which may be evidenced through a variety of activities and accomplishments. These efforts may be on- or off-campus, local, regional, or global.

Commitment to Community and Public Service

A record of and sustained commitment to service and community, on campus, locally, nationally, or internationally.

[Thoughts when considering Leadership Potential and Commitment to Community and Public Service]

1. **Ability to Deliver Results.** Can the candidate demonstrate how he or she delivered results from a position of leadership - whether by organizing, mobilizing or inspiring others? This may have been through his/her intellectual or artistic contributions or in other ways. Is there evidence that the candidate initiated something and carried it through to an outcome? Is the candidate likely to attain a position of influence in his/her field of expertise?
2. **Strength of Purpose.** Has the applicant demonstrated courage of conviction, persistence, and determination in the pursuit of his or her goals? Do the candidate's extra-curricular activities indicate commitment?
3. **Creativity.** Is there evidence of creativity and innovation in the candidate's approach to answering questions or solving problems?
4. **Self-Awareness.** Is there evidence of a strong desire to contribute to society? Is the candidate aware of his or her role in particular activities and impact on other people? Can the candidate explain what changed as a result of his or her involvement in something?

Notes:

The Mitchell Scholars Program is looking for good people, not simply excellent students.

The essay is an indicator of who the applicant is and why he/she wants to study in Ireland and that he or she has given significant thought to why Ireland is crucial.