**Dentons Legal Insights Programme at the School of Law and Criminology**

**Eligibility Criteria and Application Information**

**Dentons Legal Insights Programme** at Maynooth University, launched in the 2024/25 academic year, is a strategic partnership with Dentons, a newly established office of the global law firm in Dublin. With offices in over 80 countries, Dentons is a leading name in the legal industry, renowned for its expertise across various practice areas and its commitment to client service. As a full-service firm, Dentons offers a comprehensive range of legal services and maintains a strong presence in nearly every major market worldwide.

As part of the ongoing "Pathways to Law" programme, this new pilot initiative is supported by key partners, including the School of Law and Criminology at Maynooth University (MU), Dentons Dublin, the MU Access Programme (MAP), and the MU Careers and Employability Service. The programme is specifically designed to support high-achieving undergraduate students in the School of Law and Criminology, particularly those registered with the MAP office. *Its primary aim is to guide students who wish to pursue a career as a solicitor, including advice on applying for placements with law firms (on either yearlong positions or summer internships).* Participants will benefit from extensive career guidance, including a tailored Masterclass, workshop(s), and individual sessions with experienced legal professionals.

Throughout Semester 1, students will engage in several interactive sessions with legal professionals from Dentons, offering them a unique opportunity to gain insights into the legal profession. The programme will begin with an on-site visit to Dentons' Dublin office, featuring a meet-and-greet session, a Dentons Opportunities and Application Masterclass, and a workshop on life as a Solicitor. Over semester one, each participant will have a minimum of 2-3 individual sessions with a solicitor from Dentons to gain practical insights into the legal profession. Denton's will also make online early careers material available to students participating in the programme. The experience will culminate in a final visit to Dentons' offices, where the firm’s training team will lead specialized workshops, and students will participate in mock interviews conducted by Dentons Partners. These activities are designed to enhance the students' interview skills, boost their confidence, and provide practical experience that will be invaluable in their future legal careers. *Please note that the final details of this programme are pending confirmation and may be subject to change.*

**Eligibility Criteria**

Dentons is committed to offering individualised sessions and workshops through this programme, equipping students with the guidance and skills needed to successfully apply for placements in law firms.

All applicants must:

1. **School of Law and Criminology**: Be a registered Year 2 student for academic year 2024/25 on a full-time Level 8 qualification within the School of Law and Criminology[[1]](#footnote-2).
2. **Academic Achievement**: Have successfully completed Year 1 of their course so far and demonstrated both subject learning and transferrable/transversal skills development.
3. **University Participation**: Have maintained satisfactory attendance for their course, including attending lectures, tutorials and any other subject related activities or opportunities. Any participation or attendance in additional or extracurricular activities will be beneficial.
4. **MAP Registered Student**: Be registered with the [Maynooth Access Programme](https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/access-office/students-supported-map).
5. **Motivation and Commitment**: Provide a personal statement as part of your application, including demonstrating motivation and commitment to study law and criminology at Maynooth University and a keen interest in Commercial law.
6. **Dentons Masterclass and Workshops**: Commit to attending an information session at Maynooth before the programme starts; commit to participating in an online Opportunities and application Masterclass (delivered by Dentons Early Careers) and onsite workshops at Dentons, one in November and another in December (exact dates to be confirmed); agree to take part in a mock placement interview.
7. **Application**: Complete the application form before the closing date **(11 October 2024)**.

**Key Programme Supports**  
Participants will receive the following support:

1. **Legal Insights Sessions:** Each participant will have a minimum of 2-3 individual sessions with an associate/partner from Dentons to gain practical insights into the legal profession.
2. **Professional Development Support:** Participants are expected to engage in various professional development activities, including:
   * An information session during week 5 of the term (date TBC)
   * On-site Masterclass, workshop, and a welcome event at Dentons' Dublin office (5 November 2024)
   * A final on-site session following the completion of the individual sessions in November, featuring workshops and mock placement interviews (date and exact details TBC)
   * Access to Dentons Next Talent Online Network Programme <https://challengers.dentons.com/dublin-trainees/get-in-touch/next-talent/>
3. **University Recognition**: Students participating in this programme can apply for the Sliver level MUSE award <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/careers/students/upskill>

*Please note that the final details of this programme are pending confirmation and may be subject to change.*

Transport to and from Dentons' Dublin office will be provided by the School of Law and Criminology.

**Important Information**

Applications will be made to [law@mu.ie](mailto:law@mu.ie) with a set closing date of **12 noon Irish Standard Time on 11 October 2024.**

Successful applicants will be notified in writing and must agree to the terms and conditions of the Legal Insights programme. As this program is a pilot, spaces are limited to 15 students.

Students will be required to share their email details with the legal professional to facilitate 2-3 one-on-one sessions, scheduled for November 2024. These sessions should be student-led, with the responsibility on the student to arrange the meetings. It is up to both the student and legal professional to decide when and where the sessions will take place. Sessions can be conducted online via Teams, on campus, or at Dentons, depending on mutual agreement. Both parties should coordinate the sessions to fit around work, college schedules, and timetables.

Maynooth University, in collaboration with the School of Law and Criminology and the Maynooth Access Programme, will oversee the promotion, application, and award process.

For more information, please contact: Dr Elaine Burroughs, External Relations Manager, School of Law and Criminology ([elaine.burroughs@mu.ie](mailto:elaine.burroughs@mu.ie))

**Application Form**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Personal Details** | |
| MAP Registered Student Confirmation | Please confirm you are a current MAP Registered Student. |
| Full Name |  |
| Date of Birth |  |
| Gender |  |
| Pronouns |  |
| Home Address |  |
| Term Time Address (if different) |  |
| Maynooth University Email |  |
| Mobile |  |
| MU Student Number |  |
| Eligibility Confirmation | Please confirm here that you are registered with the MU Access office. |
| **Application Details** | |
| Course Name |  |
| **ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS** | |
| Overall Academic Grades (%) | % grades in Year 1 |
| Module Grades (%) | List module name and overall % grade awarded |
| University Personal Highlights | Please describe your personal highlights from your studies at Maynooth University, including your successes and challenges within your law and criminology course. *(200 words max)* |
| Other Academic Achievements, Honours and Awards | Please list any academic achievements, hours and awards or extracurricular activities that you think may support your application. *(200 words max)* |
| Memberships/Involvements | Please list any law-related memberships or involvements you have or have had. Also include any relevant volunteering or work experience. *(200 words max)* |
| **PERSONAL STATEMENT** | |
| Personal Statement | 1. Introducing yourself; please provide some background information and experiences that have shaped you as a person. *(150 words max)* |
| 1. Tell us your motivation for pursuing legal and criminology studies at Maynooth University. *(150 words max)* |
| 1. Why are you interested in participating in this scheme? How do you think it will benefit your career development? *(150 words max)* |
| 1. What are your long-term career goals in the legal profession? (*150 words max)* |
| 1. Are you able to commit to regular meetings with your designated industry expert throughout the duration of the scheme? Please detail your availability (*50 words max*) |
|  | 1. As a student registered with the Access office, do you have any specific needs or accommodations that should be considered to participate in the scheme? Is there anything else you’d like to add that might help your application. *(150 words max)* |
| **Confirmation** | |
| Declaration | * I hereby confirm that the above information in my application to the Dentons Legal Insights Programme is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. * I understand that if I have misrepresented or given false declaration, I will be ineligible the programme. * I agree to being contacted to discuss my application and/or participate in an interview to aid the selection process. |
| Date | Signature |
| Data Protection | The University's lawful basis for the processing of the personal data in this Form is for the Performance of a Contract. The information you provide in this Form will be deleted in accordance with our retention schedules. No personal data will be shared with Dentons however, we will ask you to share your email address with your industry expert in order to arrange one-to-one sessions.  For further information on data protection in National University of Ireland, Maynooth (NUIM) and information on how we process your personal data, please see our website [http://mu.ie/data-protection](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fmu.ie%2Fdata-protection&data=05%7C01%7CHayley.NiBhriain%40mu.ie%7C32ab83d537124c016c1e08dbd098ce02%7C1454f5ccbb354685bbd98621fd8055c9%7C0%7C0%7C638333126954804386%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nwYqfNBlQhFv%2BBrfJGYF9wQ1e%2BhVOpHnRd3XznIaO4o%3D&reserved=0) and our Student Data Privacy Notice [http://mu.ie/studentdataprivacynotice](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fmu.ie%2Fstudentdataprivacynotice&data=05%7C01%7CHayley.NiBhriain%40mu.ie%7C32ab83d537124c016c1e08dbd098ce02%7C1454f5ccbb354685bbd98621fd8055c9%7C0%7C0%7C638333126954804386%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=CEWejo1m%2Bn3i5%2F1nXEqutRa9rVX7nQIgM6Fow4GUPLM%3D&reserved=0).  For other data protection queries, please contact [dataprotection@mu.ie](mailto:dataprotection@mu.ie). |

1. Course codes: **Bachelor of Laws** (LLB, MH501); **Bachelor of Civil Law** (BCL Law and Criminology, LWC, MH502); (BCL Law and Business, LWB, MH502); (BCL Law and Arts, LWD, MH502); (BCL Law and Accounting, LWA, MH502) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)