



**Edward M Kennedy
Mediation and Conflict
Studies**

Terms and Conditions 2016

McCann FitzGerald Scholarship Award Scheme

(in collaboration with Maynooth University Department of Law)

Background to the Award

Irish law firm McCann FitzGerald is very kindly sponsoring the award of two postgraduate scholarships in Mediation and Conflict Intervention. The award will pay fees for two individual students to complete the 1 year (fulltime) Masters in Mediation and Conflict Intervention programme delivered in the Edward M Kennedy Institute for Conflict Intervention during the academic year 2016-2017.

This Masters programme provides a challenging learning experience for those who wish to deepen and integrate their mediation knowledge and skill, and delivers a professional training in areas like Workplace Mediation, Commercial Mediation and Family Mediation.

These scholarships are open to anyone holding an undergraduate degree in law (a minimum 2.1 grade, honours (level 8) degree in law (a 'licence', an LLB or equivalent).

Purpose of the Award

The purpose of the award is to profile the growing importance of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) and highlight mediation, conciliation and greater integration of ADR within disputes and public administration.

Eligibility

Applicants must intend to pursue the full-time taught master's degree in the Kennedy Institute commencing in the academic year 2016-17.

These scholarships are open to applicants holding an undergraduate degree in law (a minimum 2.1 grade, honours (level 8) degree in law (a 'licence', an LLB or equivalent)).

Applicants must satisfy the entry requirements of the 1 year (fulltime) Masters in Mediation and Conflict Intervention programme and must apply on www.pac.ie.

4. All applicants must have achieved a minimum 2.1 grade, honours (level 8) degree in law (a 'licence', an LLB or equivalent).

5. Applicants must provide transcripts of their final degree results with their application if not already uploaded to the PAC website in 2016. If the applicant's undergraduate degree is with Maynooth University there is no need to include the transcript with the McCann FitzGerald Scholarship application form.

1,000 word written proposal required

In addition to the 2.1 honours requirement, all applicants will use the McCann FitzGerald Scholarship application form 2016 which **includes the submission of a 1,000 word thesis proposal for their Masters thesis.**

The thesis topic must be relevant to mediation, conciliation and greater integration of ADR, and/or themes which are important to this work:

Sample themes which would be considered appropriate for an award include;

- *Mediation and Employment Relations*: a dissertation considering the role of a national forum/mechanism or model to facilitate addressing any issues relating to terms and conditions of employment, across the various sectors, and prior to any particular employer/employee industrial relations dispute.
- *Commercial Mediation*: a dissertation focusing on the increasing role of mediation as an alternative to litigation in commercial disputes (research topics might include, for example, measuring the use of mediation in the Commercial Court; or the impact of the European Mediation Directive).

This list of themes is not exhaustive but the committee will award the scholarship to a student whose work demonstrates an ability to develop insight into important aspects of mediation practice relevant to a leading law firm.

Dissertations will be undertaken under the supervision of staff in the Edward M Kennedy Institute and Maynooth University Department of Law, in conjunction with experts in the Dispute Resolution and Litigation Group at McCann FitzGerald Solicitors.

The successful scholars may participate in presentations and articles in association with McCann FitzGerald in relation to their research and dissertations and share outputs and findings with the firm and its clients.

Value of the Award:

1. The value of the award shall cover the entire application and registration fees for the full time Masters in Mediation and Conflict Intervention programme delivered over one academic year. The 2016 award shall be made for study beginning in September / October 2016.
2. Award holders shall be known as Edward M Kennedy (McCann FitzGerald) Mediation Scholars.

Assessment

The criteria for the assessment of applications for the Award shall be (a) the completed application form including the applicant's personal statement (10mks) (b) the appropriateness of the proposed Master's thesis topic to mediation, conciliation and greater integration of ADR outlined within the application form (20mks) and (c) the academic merit of the applicant outlined within the application form (10 mks). Applicant should also submit their personal CV (10 mks) as an attachment.

Based on the information outlined in their application form, candidates may be called for interview to discuss their candidature.

Applicants will then be ranked in an order of merit, and scholarships will be offered based on these rankings.

Selection Committee

- Terence McCrann, Partner, Head of Employment Group, McCann FitzGerald, or his nominee
- Professor Michael Doherty, Head of Maynooth University Law Department, or his nominee
- Peter Cassells, Executive Director, Edward M Kennedy Institute, or his representative

Application Process

Application forms and terms and conditions may be downloaded in word format from the Maynooth University postgraduate website:

www.maynoothuniversity.ie/study-maynooth/postgraduate-studies/fees-funding-scholarships/mccann-fitzgerald-masters-scholarships-2016

Payment of Scholarships

Provisional award of the scholarship will be announced in June 2016. In the academic year 2016-17 the scholarships will reimburse the application fee and pay the registration fees of registered students. The substantive award to a final year student is based on receipt of final results and confirmation of achievement of the academic requirements.

Acceptance of Scholarship

Where an applicant does not achieve the results required for admission to the programme, the applicant will not be eligible to receive a scholarship. If an awardee does not take up a place or accept the scholarship, the award may be made to the next ranked candidate, at the discretion of the selection committee.

The Award may not be deferred.

Closing Date

Completed applications should be submitted to postgraduatescholarships@nuim.ie no later than **5pm, 27th May 2016**. Late applications will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Enquiries

Enquiries regarding details or academic content of the Masters programme may be sent by e mail to kennedyinstitute@nuim.ie or initiated through phone contact to Ms Catherine O Connell, Kennedy Institute at 01 7086629.