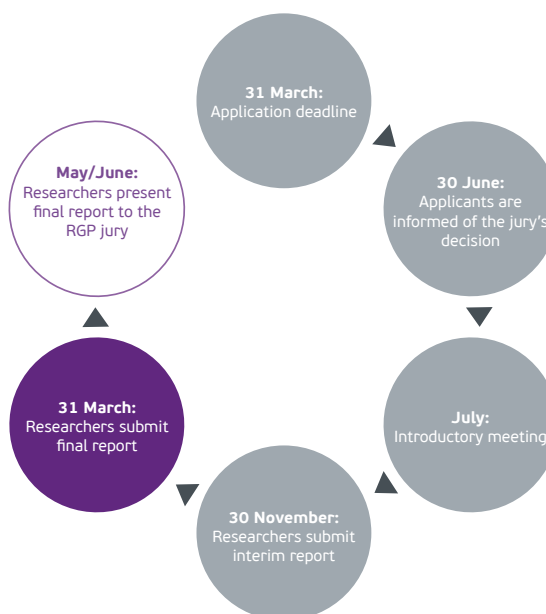


UEFA Research Grant Programme (UEFA RGP)

The UEFA RGP is a prestigious grant programme designed for academics working in partnership with national associations to deliver research that improves strategic decision-making in European football.

Programme overview

The UEFA RGP has been established to support visionary research on European football. It is for anyone working on, or already holding, a PhD who is analysing European football from a variety of academic disciplines. Once completed, the research is shared with the 55 UEFA member associations and is used for growth and development purposes. Grant applicants must submit a recommendation letter from a UEFA member association, thus ensuring that their project is undertaken in line with contemporary issues and has the highest practical value possible.



Takeaways

The UEFA RGP helps:

- researchers to conduct their research in the best possible conditions, with access to both funds and data (from national associations and UEFA), and gaining international recognition;
- national associations and UEFA to gain access to the latest research analysing European football from a variety of academic disciplines in order to further develop their own activities and projects.

Testimonials



“As a recipient of a grant for the 2017/18 programme, I have benefited both academically and professionally from the process. The grant enabled me to engage with UEFA and the French and Dutch football associations as part of my programme of research, facilitating important findings into referee abuse, experience and training in different cultures and countries. Developing an under-researched subject area and furthering academic and professional understanding have been central to the grant programme and my research.”

■ **Dr Tom Webb, Senior Lecturer, Sports Management and Development, University of Portsmouth**



“The UEFA Research Grant Programme is not just related to supporting academic research; it represents a fundamental strategic pillar for the development of football in Europe. For instance, the project supported by the Italian Football Association in 2018 is definitely helping to give a strong boost to the growth of women's football in Italy and further afield. The research will provide analysis and insights on governance, financial and organisational aspects of clubs promoting the women's game internationally. The final outcomes will have great strategic relevance for the definition of guidelines to further develop the sport, as well as evaluating the potential benefits to be derived from integration with professional men's clubs.”

■ **Niccolò Donna, Head of Development and Social Responsibility, Italian Football Association**



Who

Researchers holding a research position at a university or equivalent institution with the support of a European football national association



When

Annually
Deadline for applications: 31 March



How long

9 months' research



Where

Research carried out at home institution



Grant

Individual grant of up to €15,000
Joint grant of up to €20,000



Number of grants

Max. 5 grants per cycle
(total allocation: €80,000)



Language

English, French and German

Contact 

academy@uefa.ch

Research fields

Through the UEFA Research Grant Programme, UEFA remains committed to supporting the work of doctoral and post-doctoral researchers studying European football in a large variety of academic disciplines. UEFA awards individual grants of up to €15,000 each and €20,000 for joint applications for a nine-month research period. Proposals for research projects in the following fields can be submitted for consideration by the UEFA Research Grant Jury:

- Economics
- History
- Law
- Management
- Medical science
- Political science
- Psychology
- Sociology

Collaboration with national associations

UEFA wishes to promote research projects that focus on topics that are highly relevant to its member associations. There are no priority topics, the idea being to give the associations free rein to decide on the projects that interest them.

Consequently, applicants must submit a letter of recommendation written by a representative of a UEFA member association in support of the proposed research. Research projects that draw parallels between multiple national associations are also encouraged (in such cases a letter of recommendation from at least one of the participating associations is required).

Researchers awarded grants by the jury will have nine months to produce a 40-page final report. This practical-based document will be primarily for the association or associations involved in the project and should be tailored accordingly. It should contain recommendations and avenues to explore, for the association representatives and UEFA.

Joint applications

In order to foster cooperation between its member associations and European universities, UEFA allows the collaboration of several researchers based in different countries through joint applications.

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- have obtained a doctorate and currently hold a research position at a university or equivalent institution; or
- be enrolled as a doctoral student at a university or equivalent institution and currently be preparing a doctoral thesis; and
- have a letter of recommendation from a UEFA member association.

Applications and final reports must be written in one of UEFA's official languages (English, French or German).

Further information and regulations

The official application form and the UEFA Research Grant Programme Regulations are available on UEFAacademy.com/courses/rgp.

Applications must reach UEFA by 31 March in order to be considered. Applications that meet the requirements of the UEFA Research Grant Programme Regulations are examined by the UEFA Research Grant Jury. This jury comprises a chairman, representatives of the European football family and academics known internationally for their work in connection with sport and football in Europe.

In principle, the Jury awards five grants, for projects involving five different national associations, and decides on the exact level of funding on a case by case basis (maximum €15,000 per individual grant, €20,000 for joint applications). However, the jury is free to award more or fewer grants. The jury will normally award at least one grant to a project in the medical sciences.

All relevant deadlines are presented in the UEFA Research Grant Programme Regulations available on the official website. Applicants may not submit the same project proposal twice without having introduced significant changes. Nor may applicants submit more than one project during the same UEFA Research Grant Programme cycle.

