UEFA ASSIST
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

Career Transition Programme
THE PERFECT NEXT STEP FOR PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLERS WHO WANT TO PLAN THEIR SECOND CAREER
FOREWORD

Taking the decision to turn the page on your professional career is an important and decisive milestone, maybe even more so when football has been at the very core of your life. This crucial period, that all players face at some point, is also an incredible opportunity to reflect on what the future holds for life after football. It is the perfect time to explore the various options open to you off the pitch and see what path would be the most suitable for your skills and personal preferences. Luckily, hanging up your boots doesn’t mean you have to leave football behind you. In fact, quite the opposite, as there are many different careers linked to football off the pitch. At UEFA, we believe it is our duty to guide future former players in the next stage of their lives and make them aware of the variety of other professions available in the football industry.

This is why we have developed the UEFA Assist Career Transition Programme, to provide guidance to future or newly retired players on the choices available. It provides the essential tools and knowledge they need to prepare the second stage of their careers, while applying the skills they have honed as footballers to their future new job.

By supporting professionals in their career transition, UEFA wants to make sure that they can continue elevating the game, helping it to remain the most popular sport in the world, as they did during their career on the pitch.

Aleksander Čeferin
UEFA President

UEFA Assist Career Transition Programme

This programme guides professional footballers in their choice of second career

The UEFA Assist CTP is a unique and innovative programme designed to help players who are either reaching the end of their playing career or have recently retired to plan for their professional future. The programme gives footballers greater insight into their own skills, how these can be useful even off the pitch, and the openings available to them. By the end of this self-exploratory week, the participants should have a better understanding of their professional interests so that they can plan their career transition.

Programme overview

The UEFA Assist CTP is a five-day seminar that helps professional footballers identify their transferable skills, gain an in-depth understanding of the job opportunities available in football, and learn how their knowledge and experience can be reapplied effectively.

The programme features talent tests, self-assessments, interviews, case studies and role play to help participants analyse their strengths and personality traits. UEFA experts will present a variety of professional opportunities and share their insights and knowledge in a series of bespoke interactive presentations.

As a highlight of the course, former professional players will share inspiring personal stories about how they successfully managed their career transition after their retirement.

At the end of the programme, participants will carry out an engaging case study of real-life situations that will help them choose a new career path that best suits their interests. UEFA experts will also help them identify the next logical steps and draw up a career action plan.

Participants are selected by their national association or confederation, based on UEFA criteria.

We encourage applications from male and female football and futsal players. With a maximum of 20 people per session to ensure it remains interactive and useful, the programme is usually delivered in English, French or Spanish. However, it may be possible to run the programme in the host association’s own language.

Takeaways

- Clear view of the various career options within the world of football
- Guidance and advice on how to make the right decision about “what’s next?” in your career
- Key skills and tools to successfully manage your career transition
- Action plan for your life off the pitch
Testimonial

As a player I gained experience on the pitch, in the dressing room and the stadium. I saw football from a wide range of perspectives and learned how to harness the skills of leadership, motivation and teamwork to build a successful career on the pitch. But when I retired I needed to understand how to use these skills to find the right role for my future. I realised the importance of working with mentors and developing my business knowledge to secure the role I am in today. The UEFA Assist CTP will offer you a pathway to the next stage of your career, and with the support of UEFA’s mentors you will better understand where you see your future.

Davor Šuker, President of the Croatian Football Federation and Deputy Chairman of the UEFA National Associations Committee
About the UEFA Academy

Building on the professional excellence UEFA has developed throughout its history and the learning initiatives created over the last decade, the UEFA Academy seeks to inspire the education of individuals and organisations to continuously elevate the game.

We offer a broad range of learning initiatives in various football sectors, such as management, research, law, communications and medicine. We also develop programmes especially for professional players, such as the Executive Master for International Players (UEFA MIP), the UEFA For Players initiative, and many more.

Consult our catalogue of courses on UEFAacademy.com

About UEFA Assist

Contributing to the development of football has long been one of UEFA’s central objectives. With the international UEFA Assist programme, UEFA intended to increase solidarity and enhance football development among national associations worldwide.

UEFA and its members form a repository of knowledge and expertise that the UEFA Assist programme shares with sister confederations and their member associations worldwide. This helps to advance football and strengthen relationships through international networking and customised projects. These vary enormously, but each responds to a specific and important need in the development of the game.

Education and knowledge-sharing initiatives form one of the core pillars of UEFA Assist. The UEFA Assist CTP was created for national associations throughout the world, in collaboration with the UEFA Academy. This programme is now part of the UEFA Assist portfolio.

Application process

The UEFA Assist CTP can be organised at national or international levels at the request of a national association or confederation. Depending on the applications received, the UEFA Assist team reserves the right to mix participants from different national associations and confederations to enhance the overall learning experience.

Sister confederations and their member associations can apply directly to the UEFA Assist team at: UEFA.Assist@uefa.ch.

Applications must be submitted for approval by the UEFA National Associations Committee by the deadlines announced by the UEFA Assist team. Once approved, the confederation or national association can launch the programme in accordance with the agreed schedule.
Contact us
UEFA.Assist@uefa.ch