



ACADEMY

UEFA Elite Scout Programme (UEFA ESP)

The background of the image shows rows of stadium seating. In the foreground, there are white and blue seats. Some of the white seats have a small white label with the number '8' and the word 'SCOUT' below it. Similarly, some of the blue seats have a small white label with the number '7' and the word 'SCOUT' below it. A large green rectangular overlay is positioned in the upper half of the image, containing white text.

AN ELITE PROGRAMME
PROVIDING FOOTBALL
SCOUTS AND OBSERVERS
WITH EXTENDED
KNOWLEDGE AND
TECHNIQUES TO UNCOVER
NEW TALENTS AND
PERFORM STATE-OF-THE-
ART RECRUITMENT

FOREWORD

Contributing to the development of European football has always been one of UEFA's missions and football scouts play a crucial role in discovering, assessing, and nurturing the pool of new talents to allow them to grow into professional players. To keep pace with the tremendous changes in the profession

over the past two decades, UEFA created a unique programme providing a state-of-the-art foundation for a prosperous career in scouting. This new initiative will ensure an influx of tactical specialists and highly skilled staff into the game to foster the development of football throughout Europe.

Theodore Theodoridis
UEFA General Secretary



UEFA Elite Scout Programme (UEFA ESP)

The UEFA Elite Scout Programme is an international foundation programme for professional scouts in the football industry

The UEFA Elite Scout Programme (UEFA ESP) is a three-month programme designed specifically for those who wish to pursue a scouting career in the modern-day football environment. This unique learning experience provides current and future scouts with all the latest tools they need to work at the highest standards of the profession, supported by a network of international scouting experts. By the end of the three-month programme, you will be equipped with all the information you need to pursue a successful career as an elite football scout.

The programme is highly interactive and participatory: you will get to experience masterclasses, real-life case studies and simulation exercises together with your classmates. You will also have the opportunity to learn from UEFA experts and industry leaders who will share their experience and insights through a series of live presentations and workshops.

In addition, current scouts and sporting directors will share inspiring personal stories of how they successfully managed their top-flight careers in the most prestigious clubs and associations.

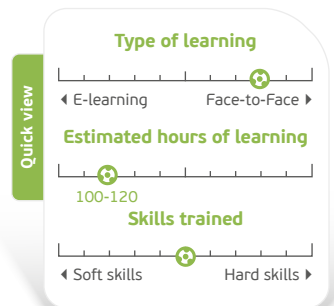
We encourage applications from male and female candidates. To be selected for this exclusive programme, you need to explain your goals and motivation in an application available on [UEFAacademy.com](https://uefaacademy.com). Your profile and experience will also be considered. Finally, to be eligible, you must meet the following requirements:

- Fluency in English (both spoken and written)
- At least two years' experience in the football industry as a scout, a coach or a professional player

The programme is delivered in English with a maximum of 35 participants to ensure it remains interactive. Many networking opportunities are provided throughout the programme.

Takeaways

- Understand the international football ecosystem and its governance
- Master the key principles of scouting and match observation: talent identification, analysis and recruitment management
- Learn how to produce various types of match reports (text, animations, videos)
- Familiarise yourself with technologies to monitor football data and statistics and discover the latest innovations in this fast-changing sector



Who

Football scouts, coaches and ex-players



When

Every second year.
First intake starts in March 2022



How long

3 months



Where

3 face-to-face seminars at UEFA and at European clubs.
2 online seminars



Price

€7,900



Number of participants

35 (max.)



Certification

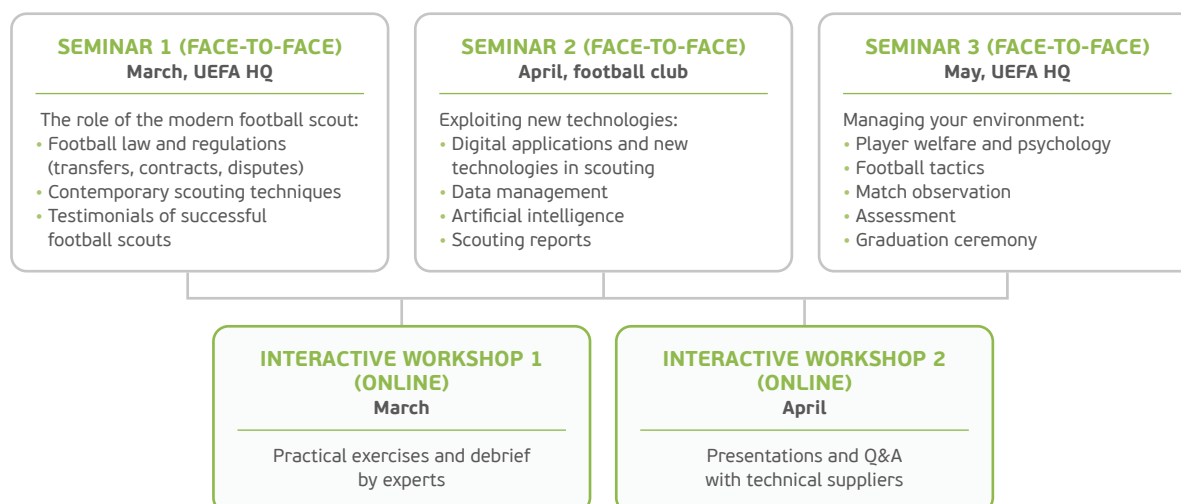
Certificate of completion from the UEFA Academy



Language

English

Programme overview



Testimonials



// During my time as technical secretary at FC Barcelona, I realised that recruiting players is a real science. This job is much more complex than it seems and is certainly not just about travelling and watching games. From talent identification to match observation or professional reporting, it requires a broad set of skills, talent and of course hard work. The UEFA Elite Scout Programme can give professionals a 360-degree understanding of this job. //

■ Eric Abidal, Former Technical Secretary, FC Barcelona



// In recent years, professional teams have been investing more and more money in young talents in order to gain sporting and financial success. As a sporting director, it is absolutely crucial to make the right decisions when recruiting a new player. The new scouting and talent identification tools that have been developed over the last two decades can give us more relevant information and limit the risk of mistakes. It is therefore very important for our scouts to know about these new tools and how to master them. //

■ Simon Rolfes, Sporting Director, Bayer Leverkusen



// Football has evolved a lot over the last few years, and the scouting profession is probably the one that has evolved the most. Modern scouts not only need to understand football, but also how to work with new technologies like scouting apps, CRM or artificial intelligence. That said, no computer is able to replace the expert eye of an experienced scout, nor estimate the future development of a young talented player. For all these reasons, it is important for scouts to find the right programmes to remain up to date, acquire new skills and share best practices with colleagues from other clubs and leagues and experts in various fields. //

■ João Luis Afonso, Former Scouting Director Paris Saint-Germain FC, Porto FC, Antalyaspor FC, Al-Nassr FC





About the UEFA Academy

Building on the professional excellence UEFA has built up throughout its history and the learning initiatives developed over the last decade, the UEFA Academy inspires the education of individuals and organisations to continuously elevate the game. We offer a broad range of learning initiatives in various sectors, such as management, research, law, communications and medicine.

Consult our catalogue of courses on [UEFAAcademy.com](https://uefaacademy.com)

Application process

Eligible candidates must apply online and fill in the application form available at [UEFAAcademy.com](https://uefaacademy.com) within the application window.

Full attendance is required to qualify for the certificate of completion. Should you have any questions about the application process, please contact academy@uefa.ch.

Building your career off the pitch

The UEFA Academy has recently designed a series of programmes exclusively for players considering a change in career while remaining in football. Although primarily designed for current professional football scouts and coach, the UEFA Elite Scout Programme (UEFA ESP) is one of various opportunities for career development that professional players should consider.

More UEFA Academy programmes specifically for ex-football players and football specialists are available, in various lengths and formats:

- The UEFA Player Agent Programme (UEFA PAP)
- The UEFA Media Consultant compact course (UEFA MC3)
- The UEFA Career Transition Programme (UEFA CTP)

Moreover, the UEFA Academy offers programmes exclusively designed for players:

- The UEFA Certificate in Football Management – Players' edition (UEFA CFM) helps participants to gain a complete understanding of how the game is managed, over a nine-month study period compatible with your match schedule.
- The Executive Master for International Players (UEFA MIP) equips former international players with the skills they need to achieve their ambition of successfully transitioning to a second career within football administrations.

At any point in their career, active players can also access the UEFA For Players mobile app, an engaging set of learning initiatives providing all elite footballers with information and advice to support them on and off the pitch. In addition, UEFA has also developed an online course focusing on financial management. The UEFA Financial Management Training (UEFA FMT) provides players with practical tools and knowledge so they can take control of their finances and financial future.

A WORD FROM THE PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

“In the world of scouting, there are different type of profiles and experts. Some are more specialised in talent identification using statistics and new technologies, while others focus more on on-pitch observation or solid connections in key markets. The UEFA Elite Scout Programme (UEFA ESP) is designed for current scouts as well as ex-professional players or coaches who want to pursue this profession. From match observation and professional reporting to video editing and data management, this holistic programme delivers a full spectrum of knowledge and skills in state-of-the-art recruiting expertise. The three face-to-face seminars and the two online interactive workshops will also give participants the perfect opportunity to share different ideas, practise live exercises on the pitch and, of course, develop a broad network of international colleagues, suppliers and experts.”

■ Leslie Reed





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Contact us

academy@uefa.ch

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