



No. 17/2023

TO UEFA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

For the attention of
the President and the General Secretary

Your reference	Your correspondence of	Our reference	Date
		UMRGP/ZBA	24 March 2023

UEFA Medical Research Grant Programme 2023/24

Dear President, dear General Secretary,

The UEFA Research Grant Programme (UEFA RGP) has been a great success since its launch in 2009. This prestigious source of funding is designed for academics working in research that improves strategic decision-making in European football.

Over the past four cycles of the UEFA RGP, we have received one hundred applications in medicine and science, which shows a growing interest in these fields of research. We have therefore decided to launch a dedicated UEFA MEDICAL Research Grant Programme (UEFA MRGP), which will take account of the requirements of medical research, such as the need for specific and expensive equipment, the need to conduct research over a full season or more and data privacy.

The UEFA MRGP encourages universities and scientists to develop their research into medical and health topics in European football. There are several topics in football medicine that require further research to make up for a lack of knowledge and data.

By issuing a number of grants, our aim is to support the valuable work of researchers pursuing or already holding a doctorate and focusing on European football. We are particularly keen on supporting research with an impact on player or referee health (e.g. injury/infectious disease management) or other football-related medical subjects, such as the design of pre-competition medical assessments.

In an effort to foster international cooperation and cross-border studies, UEFA also accepts joint applications. Up to three researchers based in the territories of three different national associations will be able to apply for a joint grant.

Applications that meet the requirements of the UEFA Research Grant Programme Regulations will be examined by the UEFA MRGP jury, which comprises a chairperson, representatives of European football and academics known internationally for their work in sports medicine.

The jury will decide case by case on the amount to grant: up to €30,000 for general health topics and up to €30,000 for health topics specific to female football players.

However, depending on the quality of the project proposals received, the jury may also award a larger/smaller number of grants. The amount awarded in each case may be higher or lower than that requested by the applicants. The jury may even decide that no proposal meets the required standards and decide not to award any grants. In that case, the earmarked amount will be added to the grant budget for the following season.

UEFA is counting on you to share the enclosed documentation with any universities and academic researchers that might be interested in this programme. As part of our efforts to foster diversity in the programme and European football in general, we would especially welcome proposals from female researchers.

The UEFA MRGP is coordinated by the UEFA Medical unit and the UEFA Academy, which is home to all UEFA's education programmes and learning initiatives. The UEFA Academy website (uefaacademy.com/courses/mrgp/) has a page on the UEFA MRGP that contains all the necessary information about the grant.

Should you have any questions about the programme, please contact the UEFA Medical unit directly: medical@uefa.ch.

Yours faithfully,

U E F A



Theodore Theodoridis
General Secretary

cc (with enclosure)

- UEFA Executive Committee
- European members of the FIFA Council
- FIFA, Zurich
- UEFA HatTrick Committee
- UEFA Medical Committee

Enclosures

- MRGP Regulations
- MRGP Declaration