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TO UEFA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

For the attention of  
the President and the General Secretary

Your reference

Your correspondence of

Our reference

Date

AFO/ZBA/JUD

11 January 2024

**Opportunities for research funding – 2024/25 UEFA Research Grant Programme and 2024/25 UEFA Medical Research Grant Programme**

Dear Sir or Madam,

UEFA is thrilled to inform you that applications are now open for two distinct opportunities for research funding: the 15th (2024/25) cycle of the UEFA Research Grant Programme and the second (2024/25) cycle of the UEFA Medical Research Grant Programme. **The application deadline for both grants is 15 March 2024.** More information on each programme is provided below.

**UEFA Research Grant Programme (UEFA RGP)**

The UEFA RGP has been a great success since its launch in 2009. This prestigious grant is designed for academics working on research that improves strategic decision-making in European football. During the 2023/24 cycle, UEFA received 36 sound research proposals supported by 19 member associations.

The UEFA RGP encourages collaboration between national football associations and the academic community. It is an opportunity to involve the academic community in your projects and activities, with a view to generating findings that can contribute to continuous improvements and increased success. To this end, **each research proposal must be accompanied by a letter of support from a national association**, indicating that it has been designed in close cooperation with a UEFA member and focuses on a topic of interest to our members. This ensures the practical value of the research.

**The letter of support, which must be signed by the national association's president, general secretary or CEO**, must be submitted by the researcher along with the rest of the application. The full requirements remain the same as in previous cycles and can be found in the UEFA Research Grant Programme Regulations. Please note that you may also support researchers based outside your country.

To increase applicants' chances of success and reduce the administrative burden on national associations, letters of recommendation are valid for two successive programme cycles. This means that an unsuccessful application can be resubmitted for the next cycle, provided that it has been modified significantly, with the same letter of recommendation. Complete applications must reach UEFA by **15 March 2024.**

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Research proposals in the field of economics, history, law, management, political science, psychology or sociology are particularly welcome, but other topics will be considered.

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

Applications that meet the requirements of the UEFA Research Grant Programme Regulations will be examined by the UEFA Grant Jury, which comprises a chair, representatives of European football and academics known internationally for their work in sport and football.

To maintain the European dimension of this programme, the jury may award up to five grants for projects supported by different national associations, each up to a maximum of **€15,000**, or **€20,000** in the case of a joint application.

#### **UEFA Medical Research Grant Programme (UEFA MRGP)**

The UEFA MRGP is a grant programme aimed specifically at academics researching the health and well-being of football players, coaches and referees with a view to supporting medical decision-making in European football. This programme was launched in 2023 in response to the high number of medical research proposals submitted for the general RGP. It was a great success in the 2023/24 cycle: we received 25 complete applications, 14 of which related specifically to female football. Three projects were selected and the total grant awarded amounted to €60,000.

Minor modifications have been made to the programme for the 2024/25 cycle, including more convenient deadlines, greater transparency in the evaluation of the applications, and defined research topics (see below). The UEFA MRGP is accepting applications as of 1 January 2024. The deadline for applying is **15 March 2024**. The proposals will be shortlisted, reviewed and evaluated by the UEFA MRGP Jury of internationally renowned experts in various fields. The jury will consider proposals for research in the following areas:

1. **Football medicine**, where the aim is to have a positive impact on the health of players, referees or coaches (e. g. injury prevention, infectious disease management, etc.)
2. **Football performance**, where the aim is to optimise players' performance (e.g. psychological factors affecting performance, optimal training methods, nutritional/dietary recommendations, etc.)
3. **Impact in football**, where the aim is to implement health or performance-based evidence in football (e.g. implementing effective prevention exercises, harnessing a safe sports culture, etc.)

The jury will decide on the amount to grant each successful application, **up to a maximum of €30,000 per application**. The jury may select as many proposals as it deems appropriate. A total of €60,000 is available, of which **€30,000 must be granted to research focusing specifically on female football**.

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UEFA is counting on you to share the enclosed documentation with any universities and academic researchers with whom you are involved or who might be interested in this programme. We also ask you to welcome discussion and to consider supporting researchers who may contact you if their projects are aligned with your objectives or if you consider them to be important for the future of European football. As part of our efforts to foster diversity in the programme and European football in general, we especially welcome proposals from female researchers.

The UEFA Research Grant Programme is coordinated by the UEFA Academy, the home of all UEFA's education programmes and learning initiatives. The UEFA Academy website ([www.UEFACademy.com](http://www.UEFACademy.com)) has a page on the UEFA RGP where the final reports of all the research projects that have been awarded grants to date can be found. Should you have any questions about the programme, please contact the UEFA Academy directly: [academy@uefa.ch](mailto:academy@uefa.ch).

The UEFA Medical Research Grant Programme is coordinated by UEFA's medical unit. Please note that the two research grant programmes are independent of one another. Researchers can therefore apply for both programmes within the same cycle. Should you have any questions about the UEFA MRGP, please contact the UEFA medical unit directly: [medical@uefa.ch](mailto:medical@uefa.ch).

Yours faithfully,

**U E F A**



Theodore Theodoridis  
General Secretary

	UEFA Research Grant Programme	UEFA Medical Research Grant Programme
<b>Objective</b>	Support academics working in partnership with national associations to deliver research that improves strategic decision-making in European football	Support academics to deliver research in relation to football players' health and wellbeing to support medical decision-making in European football
<b>Target group</b>	Researchers at a university or equivalent institution with the support of a UEFA member association	Researchers at a university, football club or national association, or equivalent position
<b>Key dates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application deadline: <b>15 March 2024</b></li> <li>• Successful candidates announced: <b>15 June 2024</b></li> <li>• Start of programme: <b>July 2024</b></li> <li>• Final report: <b>30 March 2025</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application deadline: <b>15 March 2024</b></li> <li>• Successful candidates announced: <b>30 April 2024</b></li> <li>• Start of programme: <b>June 2024</b></li> <li>• Final report: <b>30 June 2025</b></li> </ul>
<b>Duration</b>	Nine months of research	One year of research
<b>Takeaways</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunity for researchers to conduct their research in the best possible conditions</li> <li>• Opportunity for researchers to gain international recognition and expand their network</li> <li>• Opportunity for researchers to share their research directly with national associations and the UEFA network</li> <li>• Opportunity for national associations and UEFA to access the latest research in order to further develop their own activities and projects</li> </ul>	
<b>Grant</b>	Individual grant of up to €15,000; joint grant of up to €20,000	Up to €30,000 for general research and up to €30,000 for research relating to female football
<b>Number of grants</b>	Max. five grants per cycle. Total funding available: €75,000	No restriction. Total funding available: €60,000

#### Enclosures

- UEFA Research Grant Programme brochure
- UEFA Medical Research Grant Programme brochure

#### cc (with enclosures)

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