



INTERNATIONAL
CENTRE FOR
SPORTS STUDIES

FIFA RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP

*Promoting
football-related research*



FIFA
Research Scholarship



In collaboration with





The FIFA Research Scholarship

The FIFA Research Scholarship aims to encourage academic research in football. The International Centre for Sports Studies (CIES) in Neuchâtel, which is supported by FIFA, manages on its behalf, the evaluation and awarding of scholarships through a Selection Committee composed of academics who are specialists in their field of study.

“The FIFA Research Scholarship aims to encourage academic research connected with football”

Regulation

1. GENERAL RULES

1.1 The FIFA Research Scholarships aims to encourage academic research connected with football, in compliance with these regulations, in any of the following fields: **law, management, sociology, ethics, geography, history** and **medicine**.

1.2 The researchers are free to choose the exact subjects area themselves. Notwithstanding this freedom, FIFA and CIES may, taking into account academic priorities or topical themes, promote some specific subjects. These research areas will be announced on the CIES website (www.cies.ch).

1.3 The number of scholarships granted each year is not fixed and will be decided by the Selection Committee.

1.4 The maximum possible amount for one scholarship award is USD 30'000.-.

1.5 The beneficiary must, in principle, submit his/her research project within the 12 months limit.

2. OBJECTIVE

The scholarships are intended to encourage and facilitate the work of researchers who have

completed their studies and have been awarded a university diploma, bachelor's degree, state examination, doctorate or an equivalent degree. The research shall be conducted in an academic environment (i.e. supervised by a professor, lecturer or academic).

3. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES

3.1 Interested applicants may download the brochure from the CIES website (www.cies.ch). The brochure includes the regulations and the application form for the FIFA Research Scholarship.

3.2 Applications may be made as a group; in such cases, the group of researchers shall designate one person to act as the project leader before the Selection Committee. This person shall assume the responsibility for all the obligations stipulated in these regulations. Only one application per person per year may be submitted to the committee. Multiple applications per applicant will not be accepted. Applicants may apply for the FIFA Research

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Scholarship repeatedly; however, applications with identical research topics (which have been refused in the previous year) will not be accepted.

3.3 The applicant(s) shall fill in the form and return it, duly completed, to CIES, by email, with the following documents (in this order, **please do not fold or staple the sheets**):

a) Research plan (maximum 7 pages) which must include :

- Summary of the project (maximum 1 page)
- Theoretical framework
- Methodology, questions and hypotheses
- Objectives and academic relevance of the study
- Main results/outputs expected
- Table of contents
- Bibliography

b) List of prior publications and research work

c) Curriculum vitae

d) Copy of passport

e) Detailed budget in US Dollars (maximum USD 30'000.-)

f) Certified copies of academic qualifications (diploma, degree, doctorate, etc.)

g) Recommendation letters from two professors

h) Certification of language proficiency (e.g. copies of language course diplomas) if mother tongue is not one of the official FIFA languages (English, French, Spanish or German).

3.4 The deadline for submitting applications is the **1st September of each year**. Any applications received after this deadline will be considered as part of the following year's application process.



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4. EXAMINATION OF APPLICATIONS

4.1 The Selection Committee shall examine all applications to the FIFA Research Scholarship.

4.2 The Selection Committee is responsible for making all decisions concerning the evaluation and awarding of the scholarship. It shall be composed of experts from the academic world and representatives of the different areas of research covered by the scholarship. If necessary, the committee may call upon outside experts.

4.3 In awarding the scholarship, the Selection Committee shall consider the quality and originality of the proposals as well as the importance such a project may have for academic (or scientific) research within the study of football. Applications with the highest chance of success will be those which have further potential in the form of publications or presentations at academic conferences or seminars.

4.4 The Selection Committee shall decide on the total number of scholarships and the amount offered to each beneficiary.

4.5 FIFA and CIES will notify applicants in writing of the decision of the Selection Committee by **15th January each year.**

5. APPEALS

The decision of the Selection Committee is final and no appeals will be accepted. In submitting an application it is implied that the candidate accepts this and all regulations in this document.



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6. COMMITMENTS OF THE AWARD BENEFICIARY

6.1 Following completion of the proposed research, the beneficiary of the scholarship shall produce an academic report (point 8) in compliance with instructions from the Selection Committee. Two hard bound copies must be sent to CIES by post and also one electronically. The final report will then be examined by the Selection Committee.

6.2 The beneficiary of a FIFA Research Scholarship is expected to send two intermediate reports on their research progress.

6.3 At the end of the project the beneficiary shall provide a final calculation of expenses incurred for the research work (travel costs, purchase of relevant material, etc.). The expenses will be examined by the accounting division of CIES and all receipts will be archived.

6.4 The CIES shall inform the beneficiary when his/her reports and expense statements have been approved.

7. PROCEDURE FOR PAYMENT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

7.1 Once the project is accepted, 25% of the scholarship amount shall be paid to the beneficiary. Two payments of 25% each shall be made after receipt of the interim quarterly reports. The remaining 25% shall be paid upon receipt of the final report.

7.2 The CIES reserves the right at any time to request from the beneficiary a report and an interim statement of expenses.

7.3 The award amount of the scholarship will

be paid to the beneficiary only if the Selection Committee is satisfied with the quarterly and final reports.

8. FINAL ACADEMIC REPORT

8.1 The final academic report shall be written in English, French, Spanish or German and should be 60 - 100 pages in length on A4 sized paper. It should be single spaced and written in Arial font size 12.

8.2 The final academic report must include at least two sections:

- a) First section which explains the theoretical background, methodology and hypothesis used.
- b) Second section which explains the principal research results and the nature of their academic contribution to football.

9. PROMOTION OF ACADEMIC RESEARCH

9.1 The Selection Committee of the FIFA Research Scholarship aim to publish the best sponsored research work within the CIES edited collections. It also aims to promote the publication of journal articles based on the research conducted.

9.2 The Selection Committee has an additional objective to diffuse and promote funded research and researchers at academic gatherings.

10. PUBLICATION AND COPYRIGHT

10.1 The intellectual property rights of the work funded by the scholarship belong to the beneficiary of the award. If, however the author wishes to use the research for commercial purposes, he/she must first obtain prior approval from CIES and FIFA.

In such cases, CIES and FIFA may request partial or full repayment of the funds awarded to the beneficiary. Neither CIES, or FIFA will demand a share of any

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earnings. The beneficiary shall, however, inform CIES immediately in writing if they receive any patents or any other rights, during or after the completion of their research as well as if they will be used for commercial purposes.

10.2 CIES reserves the right within 6 months after receipt of the final report to publish the results of the research in its edited collections without further remuneration to the beneficiary. The beneficiary shall not assign any rights to third parties interfering with this right of priority without the explicit written agreement of CIES. CIES shall inform the beneficiary whether or not it intends to make use of this right within six months of receipt of the final report.

10.3 Wherever possible, the beneficiary shall publicly present the results of the research he/she has carried out with the support of the FIFA Research Scholarship in an appropriate manner. Unless decided otherwise by CIES, the names of the author, FIFA and CIES as well as the term "FIFA Research Scholarship" shall appear on any papers published, in a manner subject to the approval of CIES.

10.4 The FIFA logos should not be used. For the CIES logo, please ask for prior authorisation.

10.5 In the interests of supporting further research, CIES is entitled to access the data compiled by the beneficiary during his/her research under the FIFA Research Scholarship.

11. BENEFICIARIES' RESPONSIBILITIES, MISUSE AND VIOLATIONS

11.1 As soon as the application has been approved, the applicant becomes a beneficiary of a FIFA Research Scholarship.

11.2 The beneficiary then commits him/herself to use the grant in a reasonable manner, to adhere to the research plan and the established budget. He/She commits themselves to carry out the research conscientiously and in accordance with standard academic ethics, to comply with these regulations and any directives issued by the Selection Committee, and lastly, to make the results of his/her research available in an appropriate manner.

11.3 The beneficiary shall inform CIES immediately of any change of circumstances which imply a change to the conditions according to which the scholarship was awarded.

11.4 Any scholarship which is not utilised by the end of the calendar year in which it was awarded shall be declared null and void. However, if extenuating circumstances are considered justified by the Selection Committee, it may extend, at request of the beneficiary, the deadline for completion by a maximum of twelve months.

11.5 If a scholarship is misused, if the research does not proceed in a satisfactory manner, or if these regulations are violated, CIES reserves the right to suspend scholarship payments, to rescind the award, to demand a refund of the amounts already paid and to take any further action considered as necessary.

12. FINAL PROVISIONS

12.1 CIES, conferring with the Selection Committee, shall take all decisions on any matters not provided for within these regulations.

12.2 These regulations come into force as of the 1st February 2018.

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Application

Please use large bold typed letters or print in CAPITALS.

Please send the below completed Application Form with your other research proposal documents to CIES. The remainder of the brochure should be kept by you for your information.

A. Personal information

Family name:		First name(s):	
Nationality:	Civil status:	Date of birth:	Mother tongue:
University degree and faculty:			
Private address:			
Tel.:		Fax:	
E-mail:			
Title/Academic Position:			
Business address:			
Tel.:		Fax:	
E-mail:			

B. Project

Proposed Research Title:	
Subject:	
Start of project:	Duration:
University:	
Address:	
Tel.:	Fax:
E-mail:	

Grant requested (in US Dollars)

USD:

Application

Documents to be enclosed in this order (please do not fold or staple the sheets):

1. *Research plan (maximum 7 pages) which must include :*
 - a) *Summary of the project (maximum 1 page)*
 - b) *Theoretical framework*
 - c) *Methodology, questions and hypothesis*
 - d) *Objectives and academic relevance of the study*
 - e) *Main results/outputs expected*
 - f) *Table of contents*
 - g) *Bibliography*
2. *List of prior publications and research work*
3. *Curriculum vitae*
4. *Copy of passport*
5. *Detailed budget in US Dollars (maximum USD 30'000.-)*
6. *Certified copies of academic qualifications (diploma, degree, doctorate, etc.)*
7. *Recommendation letters from two professors*
8. *Certification of language proficiency (e.g. copies of language course diplomas) if mother tongue is not one of the official FIFA languages (English, French, Spanish or German)*

Family name:	First name(s):
Signature:	Place and date:

Application

D. Research Plan

The research plan enclosed with the scholarship application must contain the following documents:

- a) Summary of the project (maximum 1 page)
- b) Theoretical framework
- c) Methodology, questions and hypothesis
- d) Objectives and academic relevance of the study
- e) Main results/outputs expected
- f) Table of contents
- g) Bibliography

This research plan must not exceed 7 pages in total.

Please send your completed form by email before 1st September to:

Secretariat@cies.ch





FIFA Headquarters, Zurich, Switzerland

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INTERNATIONAL
CENTRE FOR
SPORTS STUDIES

Avenue DuPeyrou 1
2000 Neuchâtel
Switzerland

Phone +41 (0)32 718 39 00
secretariat.cies@unine.ch
www.cies.ch