

Irish FA Coach Education



Applications open for Irish FA | UEFA Pro Diploma Course 2021/2022

Applications are now being sought for the upcoming Irish FA | UEFA Pro Diploma Course due to commence in May 2021

The highest coaching qualification in Europe, the UEFA Pro Licence is now a mandatory requirement to manage in the NI League, other European leagues and UEFA Club and International competitions

Candidates must hold a valid UEFA A Licence and have at least one year's coaching experience after graduating with the UEFA A Licence

UEFA Pro Licence Competencies

Competency	UEFA Study Topics	To include Skills / knowledge	Exercise/task	Assessed	
1. Football knowledge	Coaching	Prepare players and team	Team match preparation – classroom and pitch presentation Game management, Post-game evaluation		
	Evolution of Football				
	Football Psychology	Prepare players and team psychologically Handling stress and pressure			
	Leadership				
	Periodisation	Prepare Players and team physically (periodisation)	Plan pre-season training – classroom presentation Plan periodisation of season – classroom presentation Plan a squad training / conditioning session – classroom presentation	✓	
	Training Sessions				
	Football Physiology	Physiology (Nutrition / Hydration)			
	Sports Ethics	Sports Ethics (Doping / Social drugs)			
	Analysis	Performance Analysis	Performance Analysis - Online course and Test	✓	
	Technology and Football	Match Analysis		Use of match analysis software programme Presentation of a DVD on a tactical theme identified from observation of a game	✓
		Critical analysis of existing trends/structures, etc. in the game and determining how progression can be achieved		Observation at a live game - presentation of a written match report	✓
		Personal Development Plan		Submission of Thesis	✓
Laws of the Game	Laws of the Game		Visual Presentation of game examples of specific rules and rule changes - Interpretation - Roles of all match officials		

Competency	UEFA Study Topics	To include Skills / knowledge	Exercise/task	Assessed
2. Management	Leadership	Administrative management of the team e.g. a. Financial Management b. Transfers and players contracts c. Scouting Network d. Promoting the Club e. Determining the club structure f. Management of the staff Management upwards -	Team and Club Budget management / Business Plan - a recorded 'mock' interview presentation to a hypothetical Club Board (interview panel)	✓
	Club Management	Board of Directors, Club Owners	Team' (coaching and backroom staff) Management	
	Team Building			
3. Use of Technology (Computers, audio-visual aids)	Analysis	Use of PowerPoint presentation		
	Leadership			
	Philosophy of (teaching) Football	Use of Match Analysis Software	Analysis of a match and creation of presentation DVD on a tactical theme from the game	✓
	Guidance of Players / Staff	Use of Match Analysis Software	Analysis of a match and creation of presentation DVD on a tactical theme from the game	✓
	Technology and Football			
4. Psychology	Leadership	Individual and team motivation	a psychology based player intervention (Circa 3000 word submission)	✓
	Football Psychology	Techniques for channelling and harnessing mental skills to improve performance		
	Philosophy of (teaching) Football			
	Team Building			
5. Personal presentation and media skills	Leadership	Personal presentation according to the audience / occasion (Visual Appearance and oral presentation skills)	Recorded mock interviews for the media, club boardroom and job interview	
	Club Management	How to handle the media and presence in front of the cameras	Pre Match / Post Match interviews - mock interview with TV Sports Presenter	
	Technology and Football	Building media support for the manager, team and promoting the club		
		Dealing with new media		

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The course duration is circa. 18-months

Provisional Schedule

1. **Mon 24 May – Sat 19 May 2021**
Residential – Crowne Plaza, Belfast
2. **Date TBC**
Workshop
Crowne Plaza, Belfast
3. **Date TBC**
2-day club visit to England – Champions League Match
4. **April 2022 (exact date TBC)**
4-day visit to UEFA Headquarters in Nyon, Switzerland
This is compulsory to attend, and all costs are covered
5. **May 2022**
Residential – Crowne Plaza, Belfast

Irish FA / UEFA Pro Diploma Course Application Process

All applications received by the closing date of **5.00pm on Fri 30 October 2020** will be considered.

The UEFA Pro Licence is an elite coaching qualification intended, by UEFA, only for those coaches who are currently, or who have the potential to be, working at the top professional leagues, clubs or at International level. It is not intended to be sought by coaches as an extra qualification to add to their CV if they have not the intention to work at elite competitions level. If it is not your intention, or if it's unlikely you will have the opportunity, to work at elite professional level, we would encourage you to find alternative courses and learning opportunities to extend your CV and improve your football knowledge without necessarily pursuing the UEFA Pro Licence.

Applicants must submit the following:

- **Application Form** (on separate document)
- **A short CV** (no longer than 2 x A4 pages) to include:
 - ✓ Coaching experience
 - ✓ Playing experience
 - ✓ Why it is important to your career to be accepted onto the upcoming Pro Licence with the Irish FA
- For those coaches who have not obtained their UEFA A Licence through the Irish FA, you must provide evidence that you have a **valid UEFA A Licence**
- You must also possess **sufficient spoken and written skills** in the official course language, which is **English**

Selection and Notification

An Irish FA selection panel will consider all applications.

All applicants will receive notification of whether they have been offered a *provisional* place (subject to confirmation from UEFA) via email no later than Fri 27 November 2020

The provisional list will be submitted to UEFA for their approval, and once this has been obtained, candidates will be informed that their place has been confirmed.

Once all processes have been concluded, successful candidates will be required to sign an acceptance contract which will specify Terms and Conditions, including specific dates for payment of course fees and confirmation of full attendance irrespective of club commitments

(Please confirm with your club that they will support this attendance commitment)

Course Fees and payment details

Course fee: **£7000.00**

First instalment: £3500.00 to be paid on acceptance onto the course

Second instalment: £3500.00 (to be paid by April 2022)

Terms and Conditions

- Applicants will be asked to abide by the Irish FA Coach Education Code of Conduct
- Full attendance of the course irrespective of club commitments
- Correspondence for the UEFA Pro Licence course will be done via email. Therefore, please ensure you complete the email field on the application form and that you have access to an active email address
- The first instalment of the fees must be paid in advance of the course commencing. Failure to adhere to this will result in the applicant's place on the course being withdrawn
- No refund of fee will be made by the Irish FA to the applicant if the applicant fails to attend the commencement of, or complete the Irish FA / UEFA Course