



YOUTH PLAYERS ABROAD GRANT SCHEME AGREEMENT

ARTICLE 1: PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT

This Agreement is entered into on the ('**Signing Date**')

The Parties to the Youth Players Abroad Grant Scheme Agreement (hereafter the '**Agreement**'), shall be on the one hand

..... (ID Nr:)

In his/her capacity as of the Malta Football Association

AND

..... (ID Nr:), hereafter referred to as the '**Player**'.

Each a '**Party**' and collectively hereafter referred to as the '**Parties**'.

Whereby the Parties agree to the following:

ARTICLE 2: PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT

- 2.1 The Youth Players Abroad Grant Scheme Board (the '**Board**') within the Malta Football Association (the '**MFA**') has awarded the Player a grant as described in **Article 3** of this Agreement and as stipulated in **Schedule B** hereto attached (hereinafter referred to as the '**Grant**') for the purposes of furthering his football education and broadening his footballing experience.
- 2.2 The value of this Grant is subject to the Youth Players Abroad Grant Scheme Regulations (the '**Regulations**') attached hereafter as **Schedule D** and the additional provisions of this Agreement. For avoidance of doubt, in the eventuality that the amount awarded as stipulated in this Agreement is not in accordance and/or exceeds the threshold stipulated in the Regulations then the amount indicated in the Regulations shall prevail and the amount in the Agreement shall be amended and/or shall be deemed to be the maximum stipulated in the threshold in accordance with the Regulations.



- 2.3 The Player agrees to accept the funding for the intended purposes stipulated in Clause 2.1 above and agrees to follow the conditions laid out in the Regulations and this Agreement.

ARTICLE 3: DETAILS OF GRANT AMOUNT

- 3.1 It is hereby agreed that the Player shall be awarded the total amount of EURO (€) _____ for the entire 10 month period (hereinafter the '**Grant Amount**'). The Grant Amount shall be payable in accordance with **Schedule B**.
- 3.2 The Grant Amount is subject to continuous verification of eligibility and may be revoked if the Player is deemed by the Board to have submitted false information when submitting the application for the Grant, at the point of signing this Agreement or any moment after the signing of this Agreement.
- 3.3 The MFA guarantees that funding will be available for this Grant for the entire duration subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and the Regulations as attached hereto as **Schedule D**

ARTICLE 4: IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 The implementation period for this Grant commences on the _____ until the _____, as detailed in **Schedule A**, for a maximum period of 10 months.
- 4.2 Any changes to the dates set in **Clauses 4.1** and any changes to the information provided and included in **Schedule A** or **B** of this agreement must be notified and approved by the Board. An addendum to the Agreement shall be signed by both Parties to reflect such changes to the Agreement. Failure by the Player to comply with this procedure shall constitute a breach of the provisions of the Agreement and may result in the termination of the Grant and the reimbursement by the Player of all the Amount already disbursed by the MFA.
- 4.3 Any amendment or alteration to this Agreement shall have effect only upon being made in writing and executed by all Parties.

ARTICLE 5: SUPERVISION OF THE PLAYER

- 5.1 The Parties acknowledge that the Player's new club or educational institution as recognised through the Regulations (and hereafter referred to as the '**Institution**') and as set out in **Schedule A** is responsible for the Player's supervision.



- 5.2 The Player shall see that the Institution appoints a Supervisor for the Player who shall supervise the Player in accordance with the statutes, regulations, codes and policies of the Institution and provide the necessary documentation and feedback on the progress of the Player as required by the Board and the Regulations and as further outlined in **Article 6.1** of this Agreement.
- 5.3 The Board shall correspond with the Institute Supervisor to obtain confirmation relevant under **Article 6.1**

ARTICLE 6: REPORTING & INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR

- 6.1 The Player undertakes to provide the MFA with:
- a) a typical week of work at the Institution;
 - b) a calendar of fixtures which he shall be eligible to play in;
 - c) a technical contact person involved in the training/preparation of the player (may also be the Supervisor);
 - d) match recordings in which the player has participated (provided at least quarterly);
 - e) confirmation of attendance (monthly);
 - f) A monthly progress report including competitive and non-competitive minutes played and any performance data collected.
 - g) Information with regard to any injuries/illness which may result in a prolonged absence from training of longer than 2 weeks.
- 6.2 The Player shall not engage in any illicit practices including but not limited to doping and any gross misbehaviour.
- 6.3 The Player, or any immediate family member of his, shall not criticise or negatively comment on the MFA, including but not limited to via social media.

ARTICLE 7: NATIONAL TEAM DUTIES

- 7.1 As outlined in Clause 6.1 the Player must provide the Board with video recordings of his performances in competitive and non-competitive fixtures. This must be done at least quarterly in order for the Technical Centre of the MFA to be able to monitor the progress of the player and consider him for any National Team fixtures.



- 7.2 The Technical Centre may from time to time decide to call up the Player for any National Team duties. The Player undertakes to accept all call-ups given that he is fit to do so. In the case that he suffers an injury/illness and may not accept call up he must send a certificate from the Institution's medical team to the Board and the MFA Technical Centre.

ARTICLE 8: PAYMENT PROCESS

The MFA shall pay the player the Amount as outlined in **Article 3.1** and detailed **Schedule B** into a nominated account (as provided in **Schedule C**). Provided however that final payment will only be issued once the Player provides all the necessary documentation and information as required in this Agreement and the Regulations.

ARTICLE 9: PUBLICITY & DATA PROTECTION

- 9.1 All personal data contained and provided pursuant to the Agreement shall be processed in accordance with the MFA Privacy Policy. Such data shall be processed solely in connection with the implementation and follow-up of the Agreement by the MFA, without prejudice to the possibility of passing the data to the bodies responsible for inspection and audit in accordance with national legislation.
- 9.2 Any personal data, including performance and health data provided by the Institution or the Player shall be shared with the MFA's Technical Centre and its Medical staff.
- 9.3 The Player may, on written request, gain access to his personal data and correct any information that is inaccurate or incomplete. The player should address any questions regarding the processing of his/her personal data to the MFA.
- 9.4 The Player shall undertake to attend any seminar or activity organized by the MFA for the purpose of this Scheme and any events organized by the MFA as it deems necessary. Furthermore, the Player shall be available to be used as testimonial for the MFA marketing campaigns.
- 9.5 The MFA reserves the right to publish the names of awardees of this Grant on any official publications and/or electronic media channels.

ARTICLE 10: TERMINATION

- 10.1 A Player who, for any reason whatsoever, discontinues his/her training programme should **immediately** inform the Board in writing.
- 10.2 The Board may on thirty (30) days written notice terminate the Grant if:



a) the Player *de facto* discontinues his training programme;

and/or

b) the Player is in breach of any provision of this Agreement and the Regulations and such breach is not remedied within thirty (30) days of receipt of written notice requiring him/her to do so.

10.3 The Board may terminate with immediate effect the Grant if the Player is found guilty of inappropriate sportsmanship or serious misconduct, provided that the Board shall be entitled at its own discretion to suspend the funds and the Grant if the Player is accused and/or charged of such behaviour (such as but not limited to behaviour outlined in Clauses 6.2, 6.3 and 7.2)

10.4 The Player who has his Grant terminated under the abovementioned conditions in Clauses 10. 2 and 10.3 shall be required to must refund the entire Amount due within three (3) months of written notice of such termination.

10.5 The Player who may not pursue further training due to unforeseen health situations or exceptional circumstances as approved by the Board shall not be deemed to be in breach of this Agreement and shall be receive or be required to refund the Amount on a pro-rata basis.

In such situations the Player must provide a justifiable explanation as to why the training programme was not completed. Documented evidence, medical certificates and testimonials must accompany each claim. The Board is in no way bound to waiver all claims put forward.

The Board reserves the right to appoint its own expert/s, be it medical or otherwise, to assess the case of the Player claiming such exemption

ARTICLE 11: COMMUNICATION

11.1 Any notice or communication made pursuant to this Agreement must be in writing and addressed as shown below:

Mr Matthew Sciberras (matthew.sciberras@mfa.com.mt)

The Millennium Stand, Second Floor, The National Stadium, Ta' Qali, ATD 4000

And if addressed to the Player as follows:



Player/Parent name + ADDRESS + EMAIL ADDRESS

Or to any other address specified by any Party to the sender by prior and adequate written notice.

- 11.2 Any correspondence sent pursuant to this Agreement shall be deemed to be official only if sent directly via from the Board Secretary or if signed by a representative of the Board and sent by mail.

ARTICLE 12: GOVERNING LAW & JURISDICITON

This Agreement shall in all respects be construed as an agreement made in accordance with and subject to the Laws of Malta. Any disputes arising as a direct result of this Agreement shall be submitted to the Courts of Malta

ARTICLE 13: SEVERABILITY

The invalidity or unenforceability of any one or more of the provisions of this Agreement shall not invalidate or render unenforceable the remaining provisions of this Agreement. Any illegal or invalid provision in this Agreement shall be severable and all other provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

ARTICLE 14: INTERPRETATION

- 14.1 This Agreement together with all attached Schedules and the Regulations shall be construed as the entire Agreement between the two Parties and any amendments to the Agreement shall not be valid unless consented to in writing by both Parties.
- 14.2 Unless the context otherwise demands, words importing any gender shall be interpreted to mean any or all genders.
- 14.3 When a reference is made in this Agreement to a Clause, Section, Article or Schedule, such reference shall be to a Clause, Section or Article of, or Schedule to, this Agreement unless otherwise indicated. The headings contained in this Agreement are for reference purposes only and shall not affect in any way the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement. Whenever the words "include", "includes" or "including" are used in this Agreement, they shall be deemed to be followed by the words "without limitation".



IN WITNESS WHERE OF this Agreement has been executed by each party on the day and year here-before written.

SIGNED in his/her capacity by _____

Signature _____

Identity Card Number _____

.....

SIGNED obo. the Board _____

Signature _____

Identity Card Number _____

.....

SIGNED obo. the MFA Executive _____

Signature _____

Identity Card Number _____



SCHEDULE A DETAILS INCLUDING SUPERVISOR

Institution Supervision

Please use CAPITAL LETTERS and LATIN CHARACTERS when filling in the form.

Institution Supervisor Details			
Name of Institution	<input type="text"/>		
Name of Supervisor	<input type="text"/>		
Start Date	<input type="text"/>		
End Date	<input type="text"/>		
Supervisor Contact Details			
ADDRESS	<input type="text"/>		
TOWN/CITY	<input type="text"/>	POSTCODE	<input type="text"/>
EMAIL ADDRESS	<input type="text"/>		

Technical Supervisor			
NAME & SURNAME	<input type="text"/>		
STREET & NUMBER	<input type="text"/>		
TOWN/CITY	<input type="text"/>	POSTCODE	<input type="text"/>
EMAIL ADDRESS	<input type="text"/>		

Documents to attach: Acceptance Letter from Institution, documentary evidence of expenses, Copy of Player's ID Card/passport, Data Protection Authorization Form.



SCHEDULE B AMOUNT & PAYMENT TERMS

Name of Player: _____.

ID Card: _____.

PAYMENTS

The Board shall, through the MFA Treasury, pay the total Grant Amount of EURO (€) _____ to the Player pursuant to his training programme.

The Amount stipulated in this Schedule B shall be the total Amount granted to the Player for a full 10 month period. The Player understands that any further expenses required for the training programme shall be borne by the Player.

Payments shall be effected to the bank account nominated in **Schedule C** as follows:

- I. One half (1/2) of the total Grant Amount indicated above, specifically EURO (€) _____ within thirty (30) days of the Signing Date of this Agreement.

- II. One half (1/2) of the total Grant Amount indicated above, specifically EURO (€) _____ at the end of the training period as outlined in Schedule A of this Agreement, and within thirty (30) days that the Player has submitted all the necessary documentation as required by this Agreement and the Regulations.



SCHEDULE C BANK A/C DETAILS

FINANCIAL IDENTIFICATION

PRIVACY STATEMENT

<https://www.mfa.com.mt/en/privacy-policy.htm>

By submitting this form, you acknowledge that you have been informed about the processing of your personal data by the Malta Football Association for accounting and contractual purposes.

Please use CAPITAL LETTERS and LATIN CHARACTERS when filling in the form.

BANKING DETAILS ¹⁾	
ACCOUNT NAME ²⁾	<input type="text"/>
IBAN/ACCOUNT NUMBER ³⁾	<input type="text"/>
CURRENCY	<input type="text"/>
BIC/SWIFT CODE	<input type="text"/>
BANK NAME	<input type="text"/>
ADDRESS OF BANK BRANCH	
STREET & NUMBER	<input type="text"/>
TOWN/CITY	<input type="text"/>
COUNTRY	<input type="text"/>

ACCOUNT HOLDER'S DATA AS DECLARED TO THE BANK	
ACCOUNT HOLDER	<input type="text"/>
STREET & NUMBER	<input type="text"/>
TOWN/CITY	<input type="text"/>
COUNTRY	<input type="text"/>

REMARK	<input type="text"/>
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BANK STAMP + SIGNATURE OF BANK REPRESENTATIVE ⁴⁾	DATE (Obligatory)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	SIGNATURE OF ACCOUNT HOLDER (Obligatory)
	<input type="text"/>

- 1) Enter the final bank data and not the data of the intermediary bank.
- 2) This does not refer to the type of account. The account name is usually the one of the account holder. However, the account holder may have chosen to give a different name to its bank account.
- 3) Fill in the IBAN Code (International Bank Account Number) if it exists in the country where you bank is established.
- 4) It is preferable to attach a copy of RECENT bank statement. Please note that the bank statement has to confirm all the information listed above under 'ACCOUNT NAME', 'ACCOUNT NUMBER/IBAN' and 'BANK NAME'. With an attached statement, the stamp of the bank and the signature of the bank's representative are not required. The signature of the account-holder and the date are always mandatory.



SCHEDULE D REGULATIONS

Malta Football Association | Youth Players Grant Scheme Overview

The Malta FA Youth Players Grant Scheme Overview highlights your rights and obligations and tells you what you can expect from the Association and the host club/academy at each step of your scholarship.

- **The Malta FA**, hereinafter referred to as 'the Association', commits itself to respect the principles of the Youth Players Grant Scheme Overview and Regulations to facilitate, support and recognise your experience abroad.
 - **On your side**, hereinafter referred to as 'the player', commits to respect the rules and obligations of the Youth Players Grant Scheme.
-

STEP I | Before your Scholarship Period

- Once you have been accepted to benefit from this scheme, you are entitled to receive guidance with regards to completing all necessary documentation required.

STEP II | During your Scholarship Period

- You should take **full advantage of the learning opportunities** available at the host club/academy, while respecting its rules and regulations, and endeavour to perform to the best of your ability in all relevant training sessions and competitions.
- Your host club/academy commits itself to treat you in the same way as its home students/players and you should make all the necessary **efforts to fit into your new environment**.
- You could benefit from networks of mentors and buddies where available at your host club/academy.
- Your host club or any intermediary will not ask you to pay for training, registration, or assessments during your scholarship period. Nevertheless, you may be charged a small fee on the same basis of local students for costs such as insurance, and the use of training-related equipment.



STEP III | After your Scholarship Period

- Your host club/academy will give you a **Traineeship Certificate** recognising your experience abroad.
 - You shall undergo a second assessment to compare progress achieved prior and after your scholarship experience.
 - You must perform a **presentation** to provide **feedback on your scholarship period** to the Association.
 - You are encouraged to **share your scholarship experience** with your friends, fellow teammates, staff in your club and association etc. to let other people benefit from your experience.
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If you encounter a problem:

- There are a number of people working in the Association whose role is to help players benefitting from such schemes. Depending on the nature of the problem and the time it occurs, the contact person or the responsible person at the Association will be able to help you. Their names and contact details are specified in the application form and scheme regulations.
- Use the formal appeal procedures in the Association if necessary.

Definitions:

- **Academy**
Training facility, recognised by the national association or governing body, set up to develop young footballers, to meet the club's specific standard.



Regulations 2020/2021

1. Introduction

Over the last decade, Malta has witnessed an increase in youth football players seeking professional career abroad. However, many of those players who pursued such an opportunity failed to settle at foreign clubs. Hence, the Association relaunched its youth players grant scheme in the 2019/2020 season, with the aim of facilitating this transition and increasing the chances of success when it comes to living and playing football abroad. For the season 2020/2021 the Association revised its criteria and is now introducing a deadline to ensure maximization of benefits from funds available for the development of promising youth footballers.

The scheme strives to help players cope with living abroad and at the same time take some of the financial burden.

2. Aims and Objectives

The key aims of this Youth Players Grant Scheme are:

- To encourage youth players in pursuing a professional football career abroad;
- To provide support for youth players during migratory transitions; and
- To support promising youth players in further developing their quality of football.

The scheme shall be operational between 1st July 2020 and 31st January 2021 on a first-come-first-served basis, until pot allocated is consumed. The capping for this scheme shall be that of five hundred Euros (€500) per month per player provided on basis of a season long (10 months) with a maximum capping of five thousand (€5,000) per athlete per season.

The total amount reserved for this grant scheme shall not exceed fifty thousand Euros (€50,000) annually to support all successful applicants.

3. Eligibility

To be eligible under this scheme, applicants shall be:

- Between the age of **sixteen (16) and nineteen (19) years of age (born between 08.06.2001 and 09.06.2004)** as per FIFA Regulations on Status and Transfer of Players (FIFA RSTP)ⁱ;

ⁱ For further information about the FIFA Regulations on Status and Transfer of Players (FIFA RSTP), go to the following link: <https://resources.fifa.com/image/upload/regulations-on-the-status-and-transfer-of-players-june-2019.pdf?cloudid=ao68trzk4bbaezlipx9u>



- Be a Maltese citizen or have been granted permanent resident status, residing in Malta;
- In the pool of national team players at some point during their development, or minimum four (4) seasons with Maltese nursery, or player is registered as per FIFA Regulations on status and Transfer of Players (FIFA RSTP); and
- Host club/academy needs to be recognised by the national association or governing body but is still subject to the recognition and approval of the Malta FA Technical Centre.

4. Application Form

Interested candidates are invited to submit the application form and any other supplementary material via email to matthew.sciberras@mfa.com.mt. The application shall be submitted directly to the Association together with all other required documentation.

Documents to be sent along with the Application Form shall include the following:

- One (1) copy of letter of acceptance from the Club/Academy applied for – Letter of acceptance shall include:
 - The commencement date;
 - The end date; and
- One (1) copy of applicant's identity card (both sides); and
- Financial Identification form.

In the case that the player in question is **already playing abroad** he/she must submit three (3) recordings of games from the six (6) month period prior to the application.

5. Application Process

- i. Once enrolled with a club/academy, player has to complete the form and submit it together with the supporting documents to the Association. If a player has already benefitted from the Youth Players Grant Scheme, the Board can request further documentation including videos upon submission of the new application form.
- ii. The Association shall set up a Board composed of representatives from the technical centre and administration, to assess application received and is checked for eligibility.
- iii. The player's respective football club shall be asked for its recommendations in relation to the applicant's performance and potential and the said recommendation shall be taken into consideration by the Association.



- iv. Player shall be expected to undertake an assessment which would consist of a) A medical test, b.) A psychological assessment, and c). A strength and conditioning test.
- v. Interviews with prospective candidates shall be conducted by the Board.
- vi. Board shall evaluate the application and assessment results, as well as any additional reports from the Malta FA Technical Centre and shall request further documentation (including videos) and decide whether to apportion full, partial or reject the application.
- vii. If application is approved, the Association would issue a confirmation letter.

6. Grants

The Association Youth Players Grant Scheme provides financial support up to five thousand Euros (€5,000) for undertaking a football scholarship, as stated above in section two (2). The funding is intended to cover part of the costs and therefore you are encouraged to ensure that you have additional funds to support your during your scholarship.

First payment will be provided at the start of the contract and the final payment is subject to the obligations as set out in section nine (9) being upheld by the player. Kindly refer to section nine (9) of the regulations (page 7).

7. Pre-departure preparations

Pre-departure meetings are organised to address any queries that the player might have or any issues that might arise.

▪ Accommodation Arrangements

Accommodation arrangements need to be made directly by the player. Some clubs/academies offer accommodation, alternatively the player might prefer a private accommodation. This is entirely up to the player.

▪ European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) and Insurance

It is the player's responsibility to have a valid EHIC document. The Association encourage the player to have a travel insurance policy which is valid for his/her stay at the host club/academy, covering the entire duration of the scholarship. Travel insurance should cover 'special medical intervention and repatriation'. The player should also consider additional cover to your travel insurance policy to provide cover for 'work place accident insurance; and 'liability insurance coverage' for any damages caused during your scholarship at the host club/academy.



8. During the scholarship

The Association is your first point of contact. Should any issues arise during the scholarship, whether of football or personal nature, we will provide support whenever possible. The Association may furthermore, monitor the training programme and require regular meetings with the player and the club/academy.

During the scholarship, the **host club/academy** has to:

- Provide the Association with a monthly typical training programme or schedule;
- Calendar of fixtures;
- Provide details of the coaches or contact person involved in the training/preparation of the player;
- Provide weekly/monthly fitness reports of results achieved in training;
- Provide quarterly match recordings in which the player has participated;
- Provide monthly attendance sheet;
- Provide a detailed report of participation in competitive and non-competitive matches and results attained by the player (including minutes played) on a monthly basis;
- Be fully and totally responsible for the fitness level and medical condition of the player all throughout the Scheme;
- Be fully and totally responsible for the total actuation and supervision of the training programme in order to maximise the benefits for the player within the Scheme;
- Inform the Association should the athlete face any injury and/or illness which may have adverse effects on the player;
- Acknowledge the fact that the player is sponsored by the Association through this Scheme.

The **player** shall undertake to:

- Abide with the Code of Sport Ethics;
- Make no use of illegal substances and/or performance enhancing during and/or other doping methods;
- Undertake any doping tests as required;
- Provide a contact phone number for quick and easy contact if the need arises;
- Inform the Association in cases of injury;
- Inform the Association when not reporting for training;
- Inform the Association when not fit for training.

Instances where the **player** is found guilty of:

- Illegal doping;
- Misbehaviour;
- Lack of respect by the player or any immediate family member towards the Association;
- Any other action deemed to be serious in nature by the Association,



Shall lead to an immediate termination of this scheme agreement.

Further to the above paragraph, if in default, through a doping offence/the use of illicit substances and/or drugs, the athlete has to reimburse the Association for all allocated amounts provided to the athlete, when so charged. The amounts shall be returned to the player if he/she is found to be innocent.

The player shall attend any seminars organized by the Association for the purpose of this Scheme and any events organized by the Association as it deems necessary. Furthermore, the player shall be available to be used as testimonial for the Association marketing campaigns.

9. After the scholarship

Once the scholarship is completed, you are requested to submit the necessary documents to the Association, within 30 days after completion of the scholarship:

- Final assessment/report prepared by host club/academy; and
- Certificate of Attendance prepared by host club/academy.
- Breakdown of costs report.

Furthermore, once the player returns back and has successfully completed the scholarship, he/she shall be expected to undertake an assessment which would consist of a). A psychological assessment, and b). A strength and conditioning test.

Final payment shall be provided to the player upon presentation of the above mentioned documentation and receipts. A full report of the activity including all expenses incurred and results attained by the athlete should be submitted at the end of the scholarship.