



CEU



**CEU**  
ATHLETE  
SUPPORT  
PROGRAMME



# Introduction



We know how difficult it can be for elite and up-and-coming athletes to combine their sporting activities with their education, sometimes known as the “dual career” option. For this reason, CEU Universities has created the **CEU Athlete Support Programme**, which has been specially designed to enable students to successfully combine their educational commitments with a career in sport, and also to ensure that athletes can build another career after retirement from competitive sport.

The Fundación Universitaria San Pablo CEU offers this programme together with its daughter institutions:

- Universidad CEU San Pablo (Madrid)
- Universidad CEU Cardenal Herrera (Valencia)
- Universitat Abat Oliba CEU (Barcelona)
- Centro de Estudios Universitarios CEU Cardenal Spínola (Seville)

With more than 20 years’ experience in assessing universities, the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2021 placed CEU Universities in joint 6<sup>th</sup> position in Spain and amongst the top 500 universities in the world.



# Aims

- To ensure that students' academic performance is not affected by their sporting commitments and to enable them to achieve excellence in both fields.
- To provide financial support to student athletes, as a further demonstration of CEU's social commitment. We are the number one private educational institution in Spain in terms of the resources we commit to grants – some 12 million euros in 2019-20.

- To develop and support student athletes both personally and academically, right through to their first job, ensuring a successful transition from the end of their sporting career through to the next stage in their lives.

The Programme aims to fill in the gaps left by processes set up in response to legislation concerning sport and universities, and so to offer elite and up-and-coming athletes a unique and comprehensive level of support.

# Characteristics

- The most wide-ranging educational provision in Spain, with more than 150 study programmes including standard bachelor's degrees, dual degrees and bilingual degrees.
- A study plan tailored to the needs of each student athlete, adapting each study year as necessary. This plan is to be drawn up by the student, the academic coordinator and the University Guidance Service, all working together in close collaboration. The design will take into account the student's preferences and characteristics, the current stage of their sporting and personal development and the specific commitment the student must make for his or her sport.
- Each student will be assigned a personal academic tutor, a personal sporting tutor and a mentor. The mentors are assigned in the third and fourth years and they are professionals working in the area related to the student's degree.
- Provision of programmes to facilitate settling into university life and establishing relationships with fellow students.
- Training regarding distance learning and self-study skills.
- Learning formats: in-person lectures, 'live' online sessions using HyFlex technology, and online recorded sessions. This flexibility means that students can continue with their studies at the CEU institution of their choice even if their place of residence changes.

- Availability of two adapted practical training periods for flexible performance of in-person practical training activities.
- Specialist support from the University Guidance Service, working with student athletes on matters concerning academic performance, university life and adapting to retirement from competitive sport.
- Availability of sports coaching services and a functional trainer.
- Specialist support from the Careers Service to enable students to take the first steps in their post-sport career.
- Special access to health services at any CEU clinic: medicine, physiotherapy, dental services and nutrition.
- Free access to sporting facilities for training.
- Awards at each CEU University for student athletes who achieve sporting and academic excellence.
- Recognition of the activities undertaken by student athletes on the European Diploma Supplement and certification of skills acquired in the form of digital badges.



# Who is it for?

- *Deportistas de Alto Nivel (DAN).*
- *Deportistas de Alto Rendimiento (DAR).*
- Athletes who have been selected for regional or national teams.
- *Plan ADO or Plan ADOP* athletes
- Athletes who have taken part in the European Universities Championships, World University Championships or the Winter or Summer Universiade.
- Professional athletes
- Coaches of professional athletes
- Retired elite athletes

Athletes from Spain or other countries who fulfil one of the above eligibility requirements may form part of the Programme, as may those who have an equivalent status in other countries.

*Read the grant policy  
for the programme*



## For more information

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