

BUCS FOOTBALL ACCREDITED UNIVERSITIES

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT





BUCS Football Accredited Universities Guidance Document

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What is Accreditation?

Accreditation is an operating model which aims to unite the delivery of football under consistent standards to raise both the, equality of access of football provision and the quality of that provision. The model sets our clear 'Accreditation Standards' which a university delivery must meet to be Accredited (1*). The model also offers a support mechanism for those not currently meeting the accreditation standards and a 1* to 3*** pathway to enable transition through the levels. Member services are aimed to support this transition whilst delivering specific FA KPIs and enhance university's ability to use football to meet internal priorities of student experience, wellbeing and employability.

The Benefits of Accreditation

All accredited universities gain access to unique face-to-face member services which will be delivered throughout the year to make the offer both engaging and valuable. Specifically, these entail:

Event Member Services –

- Staff Support – A national event, a remote network and accreditation content at BUCS Conference.
- Student Support – North, Midlands, South East and South West events for female students from Club Committees. National events for male and female Club Committee Leaders (hosted at St. Georges Park). North and South participation leadership offer (previously known as "Activators")

Reward & Recognition - To support and reward transition through the Accreditation pathway, Reward & Recognition (R&R) Member Services will be delivered including.

- Inclusivity Support – Annual grant of £200 to contribute to students attending event member services.
- Incentives – For universities who go above and beyond things like, incentivisation of engagement with all event member services, incentivisation of universities and regions with the highest number of playmakers and referees trained and deployed, or student coaches receiving FA CPD each term.



Accreditation Standards

BUCS Football Accreditation Standards 2021/2022		
1*	2**	3***
Separate participation offers for male and female students (inclusive for any students with disabilities).	Separate participation offers for male and female students (inclusive for any students with disabilities). These sessions must be delivered by fully licensed FA Playmakers.	Separate participation offers for male and female students (inclusive for any students with disabilities). These sessions must be delivered by fully licensed FA Playmakers. A minimum of 1 student must also be trained and deployed as an FA Qualified Referee.
Paid or volunteer workforce opportunities for male and female students.	Paid or volunteer workforce opportunities for male and female students. A minimum of 1 male and 1 female student must attend a BUCS Development event (Event Member Services – Student Support).	Paid or volunteer workforce opportunities for male and female students. A minimum of 2 male and 2 female students must attend a BUCS Development event.
BUCS men's or women's football and/or futsal Teams.	BUCS men's and women's football and/or futsal Teams.	BUCS Men's and Women's football and/or futsal Teams. The University must also facilitate student coaches accessing FA CPD.
A relationship with local County FA	A relationship with local County FA	A relationship with local County FA

How do I accredit?

Universities can become accredited following our launch on Tuesday 26th October and will be able to accredit at any time in academic year, however, will not be able to access any member services until they become accredited.

The accreditation process is simple and only requires the following information to hand;

- Postcode for all venues where Football & Futsal activity takes place.
- Student intake for 2021-22 (estimation).
- Participation numbers for 2021-22 Football & Futsal delivery (estimation)
- Plans for Football & Futsal delivery in 2021-22 (projected delivery).



What if University cannot meet Accreditation standard?

If a university is unable to meet one or more of the accreditation standards, they will put on a probation year which will allow them to gain access to some of the member services whilst we support them to reach accreditation standards.

For universities on probation, the following support will be available;

Accreditation Standards resources – These will be aligned to the Accreditation standards to offer tangible solutions to challenges in delivering against the themes within the standards (Participation, Workforce, Competition and Connection)

Regional Staff Support (Accreditation Recruitment) – We propose budget to attend and support broader BUCS development events (Regional Meetings etc) to invest time in supporting regions to become accredited. Understanding the challenges universities face and offering flexible and adaptable approaches to solutions.

Online Network – Online networks facilitated by BUCS to encourage sharing good practice so those not meeting certain standards can learn from those who are.

We hope this guidance document was helpful, should you have any further questions about BUCS Football Accredited Universities, please email Dan.matthews@bucs.org.uk

We look forward to working with you across the year


Matt, Beth & Dan

BUCS Football Development Team



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