



2017-18 Girls' Development Academy Program 101

Mission:

The U.S. Soccer Development Academy is a program that provides education, resources and support to impact everyday club environments that will develop world-class players.

Programming:

- All Academy clubs are required to train a minimum of four (4) days per week
- Clubs are only permitted to participate in elite outside competitions (e.g. approved domestic events, International trips) provided they submit a request to the Technical Advisor for approval and complete all travel documentation required by USSF. Individual players are not permitted to participate in any competition outside of their Academy Club, except U.S. Soccer Training Centers and Youth National Team activities
- Clubs will be provided with a clear pathway to meet minimum license standards and expectations during the projected timeline. The current standard is for each Academy coach to hold a minimum of a USSF B license and for each Academy Director to hold a USSF A license and ultimately the Academy Director License
- Clubs are required to video all of their home games

Rosters:

- All Academy players must be born on or after Jan. 1, 1999 to be eligible for the program
- All Academy players shall be eligible for participation in accordance with relevant Academy and FIFA regulations (i.e. ITC)
- Capped between min. 16 FT players and max. 23 full-time (FT) players per age group (U-14/15, U-16/17, U-18/19) within the club; clubs may add up to 12 FT players for the U-14/15 team and 12 FT combined between the U-16/17 and U-18/19 age groups during the period of Sept. 2017 - April 2018
- All FT players must start a minimum of 25% of all regular season games and may not compete in outside competitions (i.e., guest playing, ODP, etc.)
- A club can add Developmental Players (DP); this player must come from within the club (proof of club roster from Aug 1-Mar 1), be age eligible, and compete in a maximum of 6 Academy games. A club must utilize a FT add for the player to participate beyond 6 games. A DP is eligible to compete in non-Academy competitions concurrently
- Younger players are encouraged to "play up" with older teams to accelerate development
- Players seeking a transfer must receive a written release from current club before seeking Academy approval. Clubs must receive written permission to approach another player. Transferee is subject to a minimum suspension of head-to-head regular season games with previous club
- College players may return to the Development Academy if they are age-eligible and the club has submitted a college reinstatement form, with approval from the Technical Advisor and the Development Academy staff

Competitions:

- Game lengths: U-18/19- 2x45 (15 min HT); U-16/17 and U-14/15 - 2x40 (15 min HT)
- Game order: U-18/19, U-16/17, U-14/15 with 30 min of warmup between matches
- Game-day roster: 18 players, 5 technical staff members permitted on bench/technical area
- All eligible players, coaches, or staff members must be fully registered through the Academy office.
- Substitution rules: no re-entry; limited substitutions across three "opportunities"
- Double-fixture weekends may be played, provided 18 hours of rest is scheduled between kickoffs; games may not start prior to 9am local time
- The home team is responsible for setting up the venue for each game, including POWERADE hydration
- There is a postseason component for the U-18/19 and U-16/17 age groups. Participants are determined by overall points per game earned during the regular season. There is no postseason for the U-14/15 age group