NCHSAA/Carolina Panthers/USA Football
Head's Up Program Initiative

Partnership

The Carolina Panthers awarded the NCHSAA with a $55,000 grant to support the NFL and USA Football's *Heads Up Football* initiative. This grant will fund training and certification for 2200 high school coaches.

Heads Up Football is a comprehensive player safety program that addresses proper equipment fitting, heat and hydration, concussion recognition and awareness and *Heads Up Tackling* fundamentals. In conjunction with the NCHSAA's leadership in promoting safety for its schools and student-athletes, the Panthers are committed to enhancing player health and safety at the youth and high school levels. During the past two seasons, over 1000 high schools nationally have adopted the program including the Wake County Public School System and Pitt County Schools.

Process

1. The NCHSAA will use grant funds, as provided by the Carolina Panthers, to provide each football playing school a distribution of $125.00 for taking the USA Football Head's Up Football Program
2. Each school applying for a distribution, will be required to enter 5 coaches into the database who will take the program
    - **a.** 1 Head Coach
    - **b.** 4 Assistant Coaches
3. Once a school applies for a distribution of funds and completes the online database registration process, the coaches listed can take the USA Football Head's Up Football certification program at http://usafootball.com/headsup
4. After all 5 coaches have completed the certification course, the coach (or athletic director) must send in a copy of all 5 certificates
    - **a.** Scanned copies can be emailed to tra@nchsaa.org
    - **b.** Faxed copies can be sent to 919-240-7398
5. Once verification of course completion has been completed, the NCHSAA will send a reimbursement check for $125.00 to the athletic director at the school at the end of that fiscal month
6. If funds are still available after the 2015-16 school year, applications for yearly re-certification may be taken on an as-needed basis