

# 2025–26 College Football Bowl Game Schedule, Scores, TV Channels & Times

The **2025–26 college football bowl season** is in full swing, offering fans weeks of postseason action featuring teams from across the country. Bowl games began in early December and will continue through the **College Football Playoff National Championship on January 19, 2026**. From traditional matchups to thrilling upsets, here's your **complete guide to bowl dates, results, kickoff times, and how to watch on TV**. [NCAA.com](https://www.ncaa.com)

This article covers:

- Key bowl games and results already played
  - Upcoming matchups
  - TV channels and broadcast times
  - College Football Playoff schedule
  - Quick answers to common fan questions
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## Early Bowl Results: Dec. 13–23

Before the busiest weekend of the season, several notable games took place:

### Celebration Bowl — *Dec. 13*

- **South Carolina State vs. Prairie View A&M**
- **Result:** South Carolina State won 40–38 in quadruple overtime
- **Network:** ABC
- **Kickoff:** 12:00 p.m. ET
- **Site:** Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta  
This HBCU showcase served as a de facto national championship for Historically Black Colleges and Universities football. [Wikipedia](#)

## **Gasparilla Bowl — *Dec. 19***

- **NC State 31, Memphis 7**
- **Network:** ESPN
- **Kickoff:** ~2:32 p.m. ET
- **Site:** Raymond James Stadium, Tampa, FL  
NC State controlled this matchup early, dominating on both sides of the ball.  
Wikipedia

## **Boca Raton Bowl — *Dec. 23***

- **Louisville 27, Toledo 22**
- **Network:** ESPN
- **Kickoff:** ~2:00 p.m. ET
- **Site:** Flagler Credit Union Stadium, Boca Raton, FL  
Louisville prevented Toledo's comeback and capped of a strong season. Wikipedia

## **New Orleans Bowl — *Dec. 23***

- **Western Kentucky vs. Southern Miss**
- **Network:** ESPN
- **Kickoff:** ~4:30 p.m. CST
- **Site:** Caesars Superdome, New Orleans  
Western Kentucky moved the ball consistently to secure the win. Wikipedia

These early contests helped kick off bowl season, setting a foundation of compelling football for fans and bettors alike.

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## **Dec. 26–27: Week 1 of Major Bowl Play**

As reported, the first weekend of big bowls included games across multiple days:

### **Friday, Dec. 26, 2025**

- **GameAbove Sports Bowl:** Central Michigan vs. Northwestern — **1:00 p.m. ET | ESPN**
- **Rate Bowl:** New Mexico vs. Minnesota — **4:30 p.m. ET | ESPN**
- **First Responder Bowl:** FIU vs. UTSA — **8:00 p.m. ET | ESPN**  
These matchups kicked off the intensive holiday weekend of bowl action.  
FBSchedules.com

## Saturday, Dec. 27, 2025

This day offered a **college football feast** with games nearly every afternoon and evening:

1. **Go Bowling Military Bowl:** Pitt vs. East Carolina — **11:00 a.m. ET | ESPN**
2. **Bad Boy Mowers Pinstripe Bowl:** Penn State vs. Clemson — **12:00 p.m. ET | ABC**
3. **Wasabi Fenway Bowl:** UConn vs. Army — **2:15 p.m. ET | ESPN**
4. **Pop-Tarts Bowl:** Georgia Tech vs. BYU — **3:30 p.m. ET | ABC**
5. **Snoop Dogg Arizona Bowl:** Miami (OH) vs. Fresno State — **4:30 p.m. ET | The CW**
6. **Isleta New Mexico Bowl:** North Texas vs. San Diego State — **5:45 p.m. ET | ESPN**
7. **TaxSlayer Gator Bowl:** Virginia vs. Missouri — **7:30 p.m. ET | ABC**
8. **Kinder's Texas Bowl:** LSU vs. Houston — **9:15 p.m. ET | ESPN**  
This lineup represented one of the deepest single days of bowl play in years.  
FBSchedules.com

## Notable Saturday Scores

Across this stretch of games, several outcomes stood out:

- **Penn State beat Clemson 22–10** in the *Pinstripe Bowl*, extending a strong finish to their season.
- **Houston edged LSU 38–35** in a dramatic Texas Bowl.
- **North Texas rallied past San Diego State 49–47** in a high-scoring New Mexico Bowl.
- **Army dominated UConn 41–16** in the Fenway Bowl with a powerful ground attack.

- **Virginia topped Missouri 13–7** in the Gator Bowl.
- **East Carolina defeated Pitt 23–17** in the Military Bowl.
- **Fresno State beat Miami (OH) 18–3** in the Arizona Bowl. Reuters

Fans tuning in will want to check individual game networks, but early results demonstrated how exciting and unpredictable bowl football can be.

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## College Football Playoff: Expanded 12-Team Format

The CFP continues with a 12-team bracket spread across late December and January. Here's how the playoff schedule is shaping up: NCAA.com

### 2025–26 CFP First Round

*(Already played during pre-bowl period)*

- **Alabama 34, Oklahoma 24** (Dec. 19)
- **Miami (FL) 10, Texas A&M 3** (Dec. 20)
- **Oregon 51, James Madison 34** (Dec. 20)
- **Ole Miss 41, Tulane 10** (Dec. 20)  
Multiple top seeds secured quarterfinal berths as the CFP expands. Coca-Cola Bowl Season

### CFP Quarterfinals (Dec. 31–Jan. 1)

These high-stakes games determine the four teams advancing to the semifinals:

- **Dec. 31, 12:00 p.m. ET – ReliaQuest Bowl:** Iowa vs. Vanderbilt — **ESPN**
- **Dec. 31, 2:00–3:30 p.m. ET – Sun Bowl** (Arizona State vs. Duke) — **CBS**; **Citrus Bowl** (Texas vs. Michigan) — **ABC**
- **Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m. ET – Cotton Bowl CFP Quarterfinal:** Ohio State vs. Miami (Fla.) — **ESPN**
- **Jan. 1, 12:00 p.m. ET – Orange Bowl CFP Quarterfinal:** Texas Tech vs. Oregon — **ESPN**

- **Jan. 1, 4:00 p.m. ET – Rose Bowl CFP Quarterfinal:** Indiana vs. Alabama — **ESPN**
- **Jan. 1, 8:00 p.m. ET – Sugar Bowl CFP Quarterfinal:** Georgia vs. Ole Miss — **ESPN**

These marquee games bring major teams to primetime and are central to the national championship chase. [NCAA.com](https://www.ncaa.com)

## CFP Semifinals & Championship

- **Jan. 8 (Semifinal #1, Fiesta Bowl)** – 7:30 p.m. ET | ESPN
  - **Jan. 9 (Semifinal #2, Peach Bowl)** – 7:30 p.m. ET | ESPN
  - **Jan. 19 (National Championship)** – 7:30 p.m. ET | ESPN
- All semifinal and title games are nationally televised and often deliver compelling performances and dramatic finishes. [NCAA.com](https://www.ncaa.com)
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## TV Channels & Viewing Info

Most bowl games are broadcast across major networks:

- **ESPN:** Primary home for many bowl games, including the Military Bowl, Fenway Bowl, Texas Bowl, and CFP rounds. [FBSchedules.com](https://www.fbschedules.com)
- **ABC:** Carries marquee bowls like the Pinstripe Bowl and Gator Bowl. [FBSchedules.com](https://www.fbschedules.com)
- **The CW:** Televises select games like the Arizona Bowl. [FBSchedules.com](https://www.fbschedules.com)
- **CBS:** Features some early bowls like the Sun Bowl (Dec. 31). [NCAA.com](https://www.ncaa.com)

Kickoff times are typically listed in **Eastern Time (ET)**, but fans west of ET zones should adjust accordingly.

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## Why the 2025–26 Bowl Season Matters

The 2025–26 bowl slate reflects a broad spectrum of stories:

- **Expanded CFP bracket creates more meaningful postseason football**

- **Smaller bowl games allow emerging schools to shine**
- **Traditional rivalries and marquee matchups** bring excitement during the holidays

Scores like Ohio State vs. Miami (Fla.) and LSU vs. Houston show college football's depth, while close finishes like North Texas' late win highlight the drama of postseason play.

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## AEO Quick Answers: College Football Bowls 2025–26

### **Q: When does the 2025–26 bowl season start?**

A: Bowl games began as early as **Dec. 13** and run through **Jan. 19, 2026** with the CFP National Championship. NCAA.com

### **Q: Where can I watch bowl games?**

A: Most games are on **ESPN or ABC**, with select matchups on **The CW or CBS**. FBSchedules.com

### **Q: Which bowls were played already?**

A: Celebration, Gasparilla, Boca Raton, New Orleans, and other early bowls have been completed. Wikipedia+1

### **Q: What time are most games?**

A: Times are typically listed in **Eastern Time**, peaking in afternoon and evening windows. NCAA.com

### **Q: When is the CFP title game?**

A: The College Football Playoff National Championship is scheduled for **Jan. 19, 2026 at 7:30 p.m. ET**. NCAA.com

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## Conclusion

The **2025–26 college football bowl season** offers a thrilling mix of traditional bowls, dramatic outcomes, and a revamped **CFP chase that runs through January**. Whether you're tuning in for early results or gearing up for the playoff journey, the schedule features something for every fan. From mid-December showdowns to the national championship — and across ESPN, ABC, CBS, and The CW — this postseason delivers nonstop football excitement. NCAA.com