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NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision

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The **NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision** (**FBS**), formerly known as **Division I-A**, is the top level of [college football](#) in the United States. The FBS is the more competitive subdivision of [NCAA Division I](#), which itself consists of the largest and most competitive schools in the [National Collegiate Athletic Association](#) (NCAA). As of 2014, there are ten conferences and 128 schools in the FBS. Despite the popularity of the professional [National Football League](#), college football is very popular throughout much of the United States, and the top schools generate tens of millions of dollars in yearly revenue.^{[1][2]} Top FBS teams draw tens of thousands of fans to games, and the ten [largest American stadiums by capacity](#) all host FBS teams. College athletes are not paid, but colleges are allowed to provide players with non-monetary compensation such as [athletic scholarships](#) that provide for tuition, housing, and books.

NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision

Current season, competition or edition:



2016 NCAA Division I FBS football season



Sport	American football
Founded	1978
No. of teams	128
Country	United States
Most recent champion(s)	Alabama Crimson Tide
TV partner(s)	Various
Official website	www.ncaa.com/sports/football/fbs

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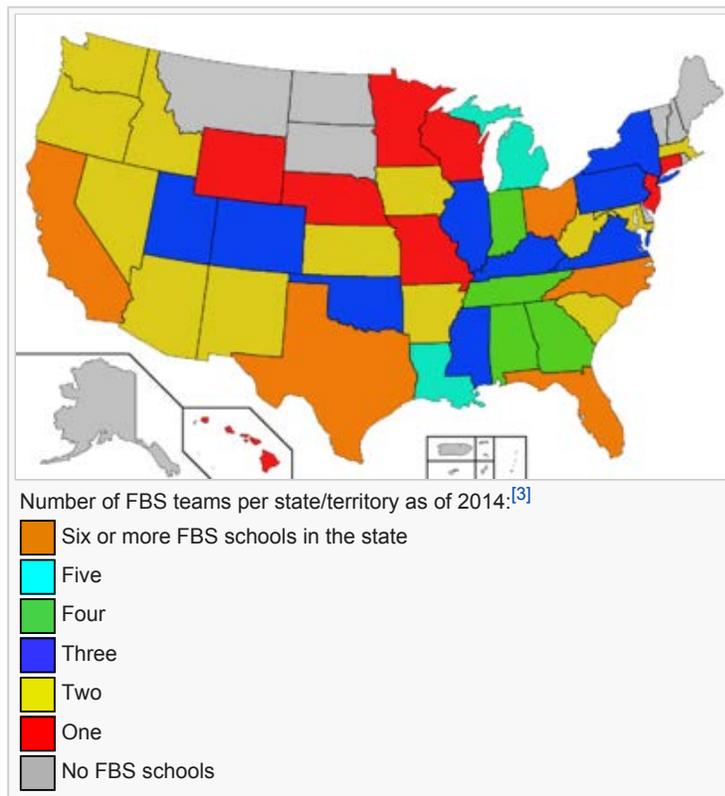
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The FBS is the highest level of college football in the United States, and FBS players make up the vast majority of the players picked in the [NFL Draft](#).^[4] For every sport but football, the [NCAA](#) divides schools into three major divisions: [NCAA Division I](#), [NCAA Division II](#), and [NCAA Division III](#). However, in [football](#), Division I is further divided into two sub-divisions: the [Bowl Subdivision](#), abbreviated as the FBS, and the [Championship Subdivision](#), abbreviated as the FCS.^[5] Divisions are themselves further divided up into [conferences](#), which are groupings of schools that play each other in contention for a conference championship. The FBS currently has ten conferences, which are often divided into the "[Power Five conferences](#)" and the less prominent "Group of Five."



Although FCS programs can draw thousands of fans per game, many FCS schools attempt to join the FBS in hopes of increased revenue, corporate sponsorship, alumni donations, prestige, and national exposure.^[6] However, FBS programs also face increased expenses in regards to staff salaries, facility improvements, and scholarships.^[6] The athletic departments of many FBS schools lose money every year, and these athletic departments must rely on subsidies from the rest of the university.^{[7][8]} The 2014 decision by [UAB](#) (an FBS program) to [discontinue](#) the football program generated national headlines,^{[8][9]} and other FBS programs have also considered discontinuing their football program.^[10] In many states, the highest-paid public employee is the head coach of an FBS team.^[11] FBS schools are limited to a total of 85 football players receiving financial assistance.^[12] Nearly all FBS schools that are not on NCAA probation give 85 full scholarships.

In order to retain FBS membership, schools must meet several requirements.^[13] FBS schools must have an average home attendance of at least 15,000 (over a rolling two-year period).^[13] An FBS school must sponsor a minimum of sixteen varsity intercollegiate teams, with at least eight all-female teams.^[13] Across all sports, each FBS school must offer at least 200 athletic scholarships (or spend at least \$4 million on athletic scholarships) per year, and FBS football teams must provide at least 90% of the maximum number of football scholarships (which is currently 85).^[13] In order to move up to the FBS, an FCS school must also have accepted an invitation to join an FBS conference.^[14]

Schedule and bowl games [\[edit \]](#)

The FBS season begins in August or September with the [Chick-fil-A Kickoff Game](#),^[15] and ends in January with the [College Football Playoff National Championship](#) game. Most FBS teams play twelve regular season games per year, with eight or nine of those games coming against conference opponents.^[16] All conferences except for the Sun Belt Conference hold a [conference championship game](#).^[17] The [Hawaii Rainbow Warriors](#) and teams that play against Hawaii get a special exemption and are allowed to play a thirteenth game in order to defray travel costs.^[16] Between conference games, non-conference games, a conference championship game, and one bowl game, a top FBS team could play fourteen games in a

season. A team that plays in the [national championship game](#) could play up to fifteen games, as any team playing in the national championship has to first win a playoff semi-final bowl game. The NCAA has a special exemption that allows teams that play at [Hawaii](#) to schedule a thirteenth regular season game,^[16] so an FBS team that plays thirteen regular season games, a conference championship game, a semifinal bowl game, and in the national championship game could theoretically play sixteen games in a season.

For non-conference regular season games, FBS teams are free to schedule match-ups against any other FBS team, regardless of conference. A small number of FBS teams are [independent](#), and have total control over their own schedule. Non-conference games are scheduled by mutual agreement and often involve "home and homes" (where teams alternate as [hosts](#)) and long-established [rivalries](#). A 2014 study found that teams from the [stronger conferences](#) frequently play non-conference games against teams from the weaker conferences or, occasionally, against [FCS](#) teams.^[18] FBS teams are free to schedule up to forty percent of their games against FCS teams,^[13] but FBS teams can only use one win per season against an FCS team for the purposes of [bowl eligibility](#).^[19] An FBS team must schedule a total of five home games per year; for the purposes of scheduling, a "home game" must take place at a venue in which the team plays fifty percent of its "home games."^[13] FBS-FCS games, known as "money games," are often home games for the FBS team, and victories by FCS teams are usually considered to be [upsets](#).^[20] FCS teams receive hundred of thousands of dollars for their participation in these games.^[20]

The Football Bowl Subdivision gets its name from the [bowl games](#) that many FBS teams play at the end of the year, although other college divisions also have [their own bowl games](#). FBS bowl games are played at the end of the season in December or January, and collectively generate over \$400 million per year as of 2012.^[21] For the [2014-15 season](#), there are [39 bowl games](#). In order to be [bowl eligible](#), an FBS team must have a winning record. In certain cases, 5-7 and 6-7 teams can also be selected to bowls, usually to fill bowl vacancies.^[22]

Many bowls have an established conference tie-in; for example, the [Russell Athletic Bowl](#) provides a match-up between teams from [ACC](#) and the [Big 12](#). A small number of long-established bowls played a major role in the [Bowl Championship Series](#), which was used to select the national champion until 2015, and [these bowls](#) continue to play a major role in the [College Football Playoff](#). Under the playoff, there are six major bowls, with [automatic bids](#) going to the conference champions of the [Power Five conferences](#) and the top-ranked member of the "Group of Five." Two of these bowls serve as semi-final games to the [College Football Playoff National Championship](#) game. Conferences receive millions of dollars for each school that appears in the playoff, and appearances in other bowls are also quite lucrative.^[25] In addition to the regular bowls, some post-season bowls, such as the [NFLPA Collegiate Bowl](#), match up teams of all-stars and [NFL Draft](#) entrants.

Number of bowl games^[23]

Year	Bowls	Teams in bowls ^[24]
1968	11	N/A
1984	18	~30%
1997	20	~35%
2014	39	59.4%

History [[edit](#)]

See also: [History of American football](#)

College football has been played for over one hundred years, but the game and the organizational structure of college football have evolved significantly during that time. The [first college football game](#) was played in 1869, but the game continued to develop during the late 19th and early 20th century. During this period, [Walter Camp](#) pioneered the concept of a [line of scrimmage](#), the system of [downs](#), and the [College Football All-](#)^[30]

NCAA Football Average Attendance

Conf.	1983 ^[26]	1993 ^[26]	2003 ^[27]	2014 ^[28]
SEC	64,842	62,789	74,059	77,694
Big Ten	67,471	63,535	70,198	66,869
Big 12	-	-	56,362	58,102
Pac-12	47,248	47,919	51,608	52,702
ACC	42,608	44,056	51,938	50,291
AAC ^[29]	-	38,039	46,870	29,193

America Team. The **1902 Rose Bowl** was the first **bowl game** in college football history, and the event began to be held annually starting with the **1916 Rose Bowl**. In the 1930s, other bowl games came into existence, including the **Sugar Bowl**, the **Cotton Bowl Classic**, and the **Orange Bowl**. The **1906 college football season** was the first season played under the IAAUS (which would later change its name to the **NCAA**) and the first season in which the **forward pass**

was legal. The IAAUS had formed after President **Theodore Roosevelt**, responding to several deaths that had occurred during football games, requested that colleges find ways to make football a safer sport.^[31] In 1935, the **Heisman Trophy** was presented for the first time; the award is generally considered to be college football's most prestigious individual award.^[32] In 1965, the NCAA voted to allow the **platoon system**, in which different players played on offense and defense; teams had previously experimented with the concept in the 1940s.^[33] In 1968, the NCAA began allowing freshmen to compete in games; freshmen had previously been required to take a **redshirt year**.^[34] In 1975, after a growth of "grants-in-aid" (scholarships given for athletic rather than academic or need-based reasons), the NCAA voted to limit the number of athletic scholarships each school could offer.^[35] In 1968, the NCAA required all teams to identify as members of either the University Division (for larger schools) or the College Division (for smaller schools), and in 1973, the NCAA divided into three divisions.^[36] At the urging of several larger schools seeking increased autonomy and commonality, Division I-A was formed prior to the **1978 season**; the remaining teams in Division I formed the **Football Championship Subdivision** or FCS (then known as Division I-AA).^[37] In 1981, members of the **College Football Association** attempted to create a fourth division consisting solely of the most competitive schools, but this effort was defeated.^[38] In the **1992 season**, the **SEC** split into divisions and played the first **FBS conference championship game**. The Big 12 and Western Athletic Conference did the same for the **1996 season**, and most conferences eventually adopted divisions and championship games.

The NCAA does not officially award an FBS football championship,^[39] but several teams have **claimed** national championships. Other organizations have also sought to rank the teams and crown a national champion. The **Dickinson System** and other methods were formed in the early 20th century to select the best team in the country, and the **AP Poll** and the **Coaches Poll** began rankings teams in the middle of the 20th century. In many seasons, selectors such as the AP and the Coaches Poll designated different teams as national champions. Often, more than one team would finish **undefeated**, as the top teams were not guaranteed to play each other during the regular season or in bowl games. In 1992, five major conferences established the **Bowl Coalition** in order to determine the FBS champion. In 1998, the two remaining major conferences joined with the other five conferences to form the **Bowl Championship Series**. The BCS used a **rankings system** to match up the top two teams in the **BCS National Championship Game**.^[40] However, even the BCS era saw **split national championships**, as in **2003** the AP Poll and the Coaches Poll selected different national champions. The **College Football Playoff**, with a four-team field, replaced the BCS starting with the 2014 season.

The FBS on television [[edit](#)]]

Main article: [College football on television](#)

College football was first **broadcast on radio** in 1921, and first **broadcast on television** in 1939.^[41] Television became profitable for both schools and the NCAA, which tightly controlled the airing of games in the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s.^[42] The NCAA as limited each football team to six television appearances over a two-year period.^[42] The 1984 **Supreme Court** case *NCAA v. Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma* granted television rights to individual schools as opposed to the NCAA and allowed teams to televise all of their

MW	-	-	32,809	25,254
CUSA	-	-	32,346	20,455
Sun Belt	-	-	14,352	18,294
MAC	17,351	14,252	17,820	15,431
FBS	42,162	41,281	44,877	44,603
FCS	10,844	8,599	7,739	8,310

games.^[43] After a period during which FBS schools negotiated collectively under the [College Football Association](#), [Notre Dame's 1991 television contract](#) ushered in an era in which schools and conferences negotiate their own television contracts.^{[37][44]} This new era of television led to several waves of conference realignment.^[45] FBS games continue to be a major draw on television, as over 26 million people watched the [2014 BCS National Championship Game](#).^[46]

National networks such as CBS, ABC, NBC, several [ESPN](#) networks, several [Fox](#) networks have all covered the FBS, as have several regional and local networks. As conferences negotiate their own television deals, each conference is [affiliated](#) with a network that airs its home games. In the mid-2000s, college and conferences began to create their own television networks;^[47] such networks include the [Big Ten Network](#), [BYUtv](#), the [Longhorn Network](#), and the [Pac-12 Network](#). In 2012, college football games drew over 400 million viewers.^[48]

Teams and conferences [[edit](#)]

Conferences [[edit](#)]

History [[edit](#)]

The Big Ten (then popularly known as the Western Conference) was founded in 1896, after which several other schools joined together to form conferences, including the [Pacific Coast Conference](#), the MVIAA, the Southwest Conference, the [Southern Conference](#), the [Mountain States Conference](#) (also known as the Skyline Conference), and the [Border Conference](#). In 1928, six schools seceded from the MVIAA to form the Big Six Conference, which later expanded to the Big Eight in 1957; the remaining schools formed the Missouri Valley Conference. In 1932, several Southern schools formed the SEC after breaking away from the Southern Conference, and in 1953 several more schools seceded from the Southern Conference to form the ACC. In 1946, several Midwestern schools formed the MAC. Several elite Northeastern schools had formed the [Eastern Intercollegiate Basketball League](#) in 1901, and its members signed the Ivy Group Agreement, which governed football competition between the signatories, in 1945; the Ivy League was formally founded in 1954, when the agreement was extended to cover all sports. In 1959, the Pacific Coast Conference dissolved, and most of its former members formed the new Athletic Association of Western Universities, which became the Pac-8 when more former PCC members joined. In 1962, several schools from the Mountain States Conference and the Border Conference formed the Western Athletic Conference. In 1969, the Pacific Coast Athletic Association (PCAA), later known as the [Big West Conference](#), was formed by several Division II California schools that sought to join Division I.

Division I separated into Division I-A (the predecessor to the FBS) and I-AA (predecessor of the [FCS](#)) prior to the [1978 season](#). At that time, there were several [independent](#) I-A schools and twelve Division I-A conferences: the Southeastern Conference (SEC), Big 10, [Pacific-10](#) (Pac-10), [Big 8](#), [Southwest Conference](#) (SWC), [Western Athletic Conference](#) (WAC), PCAA (which later changed its name to the Big West), [Missouri Valley Conference](#), [Southern Conference](#), Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC), Mid-American Conference (MAC), and the [Ivy League](#). The Ivy League and the Southern Conference left for Division I-AA prior to the 1982 season, while the Missouri Valley Conference stopped sponsoring football prior to the 1985 season. In 1991, the [Big East](#) recruited several independents and began sponsoring football, becoming a major conference. In 1996, [Conference USA](#) (C-USA), formed the previous year by the merger of the non-football [Metro](#) and [Great Midwest](#) Conferences, also began sponsoring football. That same year, the Southwest Conference dissolved, and four of its former members joined with the Big 8 to form the Big 12 Conference. In 1999, eight schools broke away from the WAC to form the [Mountain West Conference](#) (MW).

Number of FBS teams and conferences

Year	Conferences	Teams
1980	13 ^[49]	138
1990	9 ^[50]	107
2000	11 ^[51]	116
2010	11 ^[52]	120
2016	10	128

Prior to the 2000 season, the Big West stopped sponsoring football. The [Sun Belt Conference](#) began sponsoring football in 2001. After periods of conference realignment in [2005](#) and [2010-2014](#) that saw the expansion of the ACC, Big 10, SEC, and Pac-10 (which changed its name to the Pac-12), the WAC [reorganized as a non-football conference](#) and the [Big East split](#) into the [American Athletic Conference](#) and a [new non-football conference](#) that retained the Big East name.^[53]

Current conferences [[edit](#)]

See also: [List of NCAA Division I FBS football programs](#)

Most of the 128 FBS schools are members of an FBS conference, but there are also a small number of [independent schools](#). Since the [Western Athletic Conference](#) discontinued football sponsorship prior to the [2013 season](#), there have been ten conferences in the FBS. All of the FBS conferences have between ten and fourteen members, although independent [Notre Dame](#) has a scheduling agreement with the fourteen-member ACC. The ten conferences are split into two groups for the purposes of the [College Football Playoff](#). The "[Power Five conferences](#)" consist of most of the largest and most well-known college athletic programs in the country. A school from one of the Power Five conferences won every [BCS National Championship Game](#) (which operated from 1999 to 2014), and has won every [College Football Playoff National Championship](#). The remaining five conferences are known as the "Group of Five."^[54] Any conference with at least 12 football teams may split its teams into two divisions,^[55] and only the Big 12 Conference and the Sun Belt Conference do not use divisions. As of the [2016 season](#), all conferences except for the Sun Belt Conference hold a [championship game](#) that determines the conference champion.^[17] The Big 12 Conference and Sun Belt Conference both intend to implement a championship game in the future.^[17]

Conference	Nickname	Founded	Football Members	Sports	Headquarters
American Athletic Conference	The American	1979 ^[FBS 1]	12 ^[FBS 2]	21	Providence, Rhode Island
Atlantic Coast Conference **	ACC	1953	14 ^[FBS 3]	26	Greensboro, North Carolina
Big 12 Conference **	Big 12	1996	10	21	Irving, Texas
Big Ten Conference **	Big Ten, B1G	1896	14	28	Rosemont, Illinois
Conference USA	C-USA	1995 ^[FBS 4]	13 ^[FBS 5]	19	Irving, Texas
Division I FBS Independents ^[FBS 6]			4		
Mid-American Conference	MAC	1946	12	23	Cleveland, Ohio
Mountain West Conference	MW (official) MWC (informal)	1999	12 ^[FBS 7]	19	Colorado Springs, Colorado
Pac-12 Conference **	Pac-12	1915 ^[FBS 8]	12	23 ^[FBS 9]	Walnut Creek, California
Southeastern Conference **	SEC	1932	14	20	Birmingham, Alabama
Sun Belt Conference	Sun Belt	1976	12 ^[FBS 10]	18	New Orleans, Louisiana

(** "Big Five" or "Power Five" conferences with guaranteed berths in the "access bowls" associated with the [College Football Playoff](#))

Notes

- ↑ The conference was founded in 1979 as the [original Big East Conference](#). It renamed itself the American Athletic Conference following a [2013 split](#) along football lines. The non-FBS schools of the original conference left to form a new conference that purchased [the Big East name](#), while the FBS schools continued to operate under the old Big East's charter and structure. The American also inherited the old Big East's [Bowl Championship Series](#) berth for the 2013 season, the last for the BCS.
- ↑ [Navy](#) is a football-only member.
- ↑ [Notre Dame](#) is a full member except in football, in which it remains independent. It has committed to play five games each season against ACC opponents, and to play each other ACC member at least once every three years.
- ↑ The conference was founded in 1995, with football competition starting in 1996.
- ↑ [UAB](#) dropped football after the 2014 season, but will reinstate the sport in 2017. It is currently a non-football member of the conference.
- ↑ Note that "Independents" is not a conference; it is simply a designation used for schools whose football programs do not play in any conference. All of these schools have conference memberships for other sports.
- ↑ Since 2012, [Hawaii](#) has been a football-only associate member, with most of its remaining teams in the non-football [Big West Conference](#).
- ↑ The charter of the Pac-12 dates only to the formation of the Athletic Association of Western Universities (AAWU) in 1959. However, the Pac-12 claims the history of the [Pacific Coast Conference](#), which was founded in 1915 and began competition in 1916, as its own. Of the nine members of the PCC at the time of its demise in June 1959, only [Idaho](#) never joined the Pac-12. The PCC's berth in the [Rose Bowl](#) passed to the AAWU.
- ↑ 24 sports in 2017 with addition of women's lacrosse.
- ↑ Ten Sun Belt Conference full member schools sponsor football, while [Idaho](#) and [New Mexico State](#) are football-only members. [Little Rock](#) and [UT Arlington](#) are full members except for football. [Coastal Carolina](#), currently a non-football member of the conference, will join Sun Belt football in 2017, the second year of its transition from FCS to FBS.
 - ↑ Idaho and New Mexico State will leave Sun Belt football after the 2017 season. Idaho has announced it will downgrade to FCS football and add football to its all-sports membership in the [Big Sky Conference](#). New Mexico State's future football affiliation has not yet been determined.

Teams transitioning to the FBS [[edit](#)]

[Coastal Carolina University](#) joined the [Sun Belt Conference](#) on July 1, 2016 after playing in the FCS [Big South Conference](#), beginning a two-year transition to FBS status. The [Chanticleers](#) will play a full Sun Belt football schedule in 2017 and become bowl eligible in 2018. ^[56]

Realignment [[edit](#)]

The FBS has experienced several [realignments](#) since its formation in 1978, with many teams changing conferences, dropping out of the FBS, or moving up from the FCS. In 1982, the size of the division was cut considerably, and the [Southern Conference](#) and the [Ivy League](#) were demoted to the FCS.^[57] In 1985, the [Missouri Valley Conference](#) stopped sponsoring football.^[58] In the 1980s and 1990s, several [independents](#) joined conferences, dropped football, or joined the FCS. In the [1996 NCAA conference realignment](#), the [Southwest Conference](#) dissolved, and four Texas teams from that conference joined with the [Big 8](#) schools to form the [Big 12 Conference](#). The [Western Athletic Conference](#) expanded to sixteen members, but half of the schools left in 1999 to form the [Mountain West Conference](#). [Conference USA](#) (C-USA) formed from a merger of the [Metro Conference](#) and the [Great Midwest Conference](#), two conferences which had not sponsored football. The [Big West](#) stopped sponsoring football after the 2000 season, and was essentially replaced by the [Sun Belt Conference](#), which added former Big West members and began sponsoring football in 2001. In the mid-2000s, the Big East added former basketball-only member Connecticut, while Temple left the conference (before eventually returning in 2013). During another [phase of realignment in](#)

2005, three schools jumped from the **Big East** to the ACC. The Big East responded by adding schools from **Conference USA**.^[58]

College football underwent another **major conference realignment** in the first half of the 2010s. Members of the **Big East** left the conference to join the Big 12 and ACC. The Big 12 lost members to the SEC, the Pac-12, and the Big Ten, while the Big Ten also gained one former ACC member. The remaining members of the Big East split into two conferences: the **American Athletic Conference** ("The American") and a new conference that assumed the **Big East** name but does not sponsor football. The American added several schools from C-USA, but lost one school each to the ACC and Big Ten after its first season. In turn, **C-USA added** FCS schools and schools from the **Sun Belt Conference**. The Sun Belt Conference **replenished its membership** by adding FCS schools and schools from the **Western Athletic Conference**. The Mountain West lost schools to the Big 12, Pac-12 and the FBS independent ranks, and **added** several schools from the WAC. After several defections, the WAC **dropped** its sponsorship of football.^[58]

The latest realignment cycle also affected the FBS independent ranks. **BYU** left the MW in 2011 for football independence and the non-football **West Coast Conference**. In 2013, **Idaho** and **New Mexico State**, the last two football-sponsoring schools in the WAC, became FBS independents, but would return to their former football home of the Sun Belt Conference as football-only members the following year. Also in 2013, **Notre Dame** became a full but non-football member of the ACC, entering into a scheduling agreement with that conference that calls for the **Fighting Irish football team** to play five games each season against ACC schools, and to play each other ACC school at least once every three years. Finally, in 2015, **Navy** became a football-only member of The American, ending more than a century of football independence.^[58]

Realignment has continued to this day, though at a considerably lower level. The 2016 season saw FCS **Coastal Carolina** join the Sun Belt Conference for non-football sports while beginning a transition to FBS football; the **football team** will join the Sun Belt in 2017. That season will also be the last for **Idaho** and **New Mexico State** as Sun Belt football members. After 2017, New Mexico State will return to independent status, while Idaho will downgrade to FCS football—becoming the first program ever to voluntarily do so—and add football to its all-sports membership in the **Big Sky Conference**. Also in 2016, **UMass** went independent after turning down an offer of full membership in the **Mid-American Conference**.

Awards [[edit](#)]

See also: *[College football national championships in NCAA Division I FBS](#)*

Several awards are given each year to players and coaches in the FBS. Although all college football players are eligible for many of these awards (such as the **Heisman Trophy**), FBS players usually win these awards, and other awards (such as the **Walter Payton Award**) exist to honor players in other divisions and the FCS. In addition to the national awards listed below, FBS conferences also have their own awards, and several organizations release a yearly **College Football All-America Team**. In 1951, the **National Football Foundation** established the **College Football Hall of Fame**. Notable individual awards include:

- Best/most valuable player: **Heisman Trophy**, **Maxwell Award**, **Walter Camp Award**, **Archie Griffin Award**, **AP Player of the Year**, **SN Player of the Year**
- Defensive player of the year: **Chuck Bednarik Award**, **Bronko Nagurski Trophy**, **Lott Trophy**
- Position awards: **Dave Rimington Trophy** (Center), **Davey O'Brien Award** and **Manning Award** (Quarterback), **Dick Butkus Award** (Linebacker), **Doak Walker Award** (Running back), **Fred Biletnikoff Award** (Wide receiver), **Jim Thorpe Award** (Defensive back), **John Mackey Award** (Tight end), **Lombardi Award** (Lineman/linebacker), **Lou Groza Award** (Placekicker), **Outland Trophy** (Interior lineman), **Ray Guy Award** (Punter), **Ted Hendricks Award** (Defensive end), **Jet Award** (Return Specialist)
- Coaching awards: **AFCA Coach of the Year**, **Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year**, **SN Coach of the Year**, **Walter Camp Coach of the Year Award**, **Paul "Bear" Bryant Award**, **AP Coach of the Year**, **Broyles Award**, **AFCA Assistant Coach of the Year**

Historical [edit]

1991 [edit]



East was formed and one year before the start of the [Bowl Coalition](#). Hawaii (a member of the WAC) is not shown. Independents that joined an [AQ](#) (such as Notre Dame, which also automatically qualified for the BCS under certain conditions) are represented by black circles, while the remaining independents

1956 [edit]



ams formed the Big 6.^[60]

Schools that have transitioned to the FBS [\[edit \]](#)

- Buffalo
- UMASS
- UCONN



e FBS since 1978. Green pogs indicate schools that transitioned before 1990, red pogs indicate schools that transitioned between 1990 and 1999, blue pogs indicate schools that transitioned between 2000 and 2009, and orange pogs indicate schools that transitioned after 2010.

See also [edit]

- [NCAA Men's Division I Football Bowl Subdivision alignment history](#)
- [List of NCAA Division I non-football programs](#)
- [List of NCAA Division I FBS football stadiums](#)



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