2026 UCF Football Schedule

Week	Date	Opponent	Location
1	**Thursday, Sept. 3**	**Bethune-Cookman**	**Acrisure Bounce House**
2	Saturday, Sept. 12	at Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh, Pa.
3	**Saturday, Sept. 19**	**Georgia State (Family Weekend)**	**Acrisure Bounce House**
4	**Saturday, Sept. 26**	**TCU***	**Acrisure Bounce House**
5	Saturday, Oct. 3	at Houston*	Houston, Texas
6	Saturday, Oct. 10	at Oklahoma State*	Stillwater, Okla.
7	Saturday, Oct. 17	BYE	
8	**Saturday, Oct. 24**	**BYU* (Homecoming)**	**Acrisure Bounce House**
9	**Friday, Oct. 30**	**Baylor* (Space Game)**	**Acrisure Bounce House**
10	Saturday, Nov. 7	at Kansas*	Lawrence, Kan.
11	**Saturday, Nov. 14**	**Arizona State***	**Acrisure Bounce House**
12	**Friday, Nov. 20**	**Iowa State***	**Acrisure Bounce House**
13	Saturday, Nov. 28	at Colorado*	Boulder, Colo.
14	Friday, Dec. 4	Big 12 Football Championship at AT&T Stadium	Dallas, Texas

Bold - *indicates home game in Orlando, Fla.*
** - indicates Big 12 Conference game*
Note: Select Saturday games in the 2026 season may be adjusted to select Fridays, other special dates and Black Friday. These games will be announced in the coming weeks. To ensure the best possible gameday atmosphere, UCF will await the decision of the conference and its television parters before designating the date of the Mission Ten Space Game.

5 Numbers to Know for 2026

1 The 2026 slate will be the **first season** that the Knights have opened Big 12 play at home in UCF's fourth campaign as members of the league. It will be the second time in the Black & Gold's Big 12 tenure that they've begun Big 12 play against TCU; the other two times were road games at Kansas State. UCF triumphed over TCU 35-34 in Fort Worth to begin the 2024 league slate. Additionally, 2026 will be the second season that UCF plays five Big 12 home games.

2 The Knights will play **two games** against teams with new head coaches in 2026, visiting Oklahoma State and Eric Morris before hosting Iowa State and Jimmy Rogers. 2025 saw UCF and head coach Scott Frost go a perfect 5-0 against new head coaches, beating North Carolina's Bill Belichick, West Virginia's Rich Rodriguez, Oklahoma State's interim Doug Meacham, Jacksonville State's Charles Kelly and North Carolina A&T's Shawn Gibbs in their first years with their programs.

4 **Four teams** will be making their inaugural trip to Acrisure Bounce House this season, including three Big 12 opponents. Georgia State will wrap up UCF's non-conference slate as the first meeting between the two sides. TCU, Iowa State and Arizona State will all make their Orlando debuts this season, meaning more than half of the Knights' Big 12 home games will be making first-time appearances in front of Knight Nation.

20 The 2026 slate is the **20th season** that UCF has called Acrisure Bounce House home. The Knights have posted an impressive 90-32 record at home since opening the on-campus stadium in 2007, including five seasons where the Black and Gold have been perfect in Orlando (2014, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021). UCF has scored 3,830 points in the Bounce House compared to 2,113 points by opponents since its opening. Additionally, the renovations to Roth Tower will be completed for 2026, increasing premium capacity, expanding suite offerings and providing unique event opportunities year-round.

72 Quarterback Alonza Barnett III, who transfers into UCF from James Madison ahead of the 2026 season, has compiled **72 touchdowns** throughout his collegiate career. He's tossed 49 touchdowns through the air and added another 23 on the ground. The reigning Sun Belt Conference Player of the Year and the driving force behind James Madison's championship season and College Football Playoff appearance, Barnett made a name for himself as a Duke and looks to add an immediate spark to the Knights' roster.

OPPONENT INFORMATION

Bethune-Cookman
Thursday, September 3
Acrisure Bounce House
Orlando, Fla.

School Location	Daytona Beach, Fla.
Nickname	Wildcats
Conference	SWAC
Stadium	Daytona Stadium
2025 Record	6-6
2025 Conference Record/Finish	5-3/3rd, East Division
2025 Bowl	N/A
Head Coach	Raymond Woodie
Overall Record (Season)	11-24 (4th)
Record at School (Season)	11-24 (4th)
Series with UCF	UCF leads 12-5
Last Meeting	Sep. 11, 2021 in Orlando; UCF 63, Bethune-Cookman 14
X/Twitter	@BCUGridiron

Houston
Saturday, October 3
TDECU Stadium
Houston, Texas

School Location	Houston, Texas
Nickname	Cougars
Conference	Big 12
Stadium	TDECU Stadium
2025 Record	10-3
2025 Conference Record/Finish	6-3/T-4th
2025 Bowl	Kinder's Texas Bowl; 38-35 Win vs. LSU
Head Coach	Willie Fritz
Overall Record (Season)	222-127 (30th)
Record at School (Season)	14-11 (3rd)
Series with UCF	UCF leads 8-4
Last Meeting	Nov. 7, 2025 in Orlando; Houston 30, UCF 27
X/Twitter	@UHCougarFB

Kansas
Saturday, November 7
David Booth Kansas Memorial Stadium
Lawrence, Kan.

School Location	Lawrence, Kan.
Nickname	Jayhawks
Conference	Big 12
Stadium	David Booth Kansas Memorial Stadium
2025 Record	5-7
2025 Conference Record/Finish	3-6/T-11th
2025 Bowl	N/A
Head Coach	Lance Leipold
Overall Record (Season)	173-74 (20th)
Record at School (Season)	27-35 (6th)
Series with UCF	Kansas leads 2-0
Last Meeting	Oct. 4, 2025 in Orlando; Kansas 27, UCF 20
X/Twitter	@KU_Football

Pittsburgh
Saturday, September 12
Acrisure Stadium
Pittsburgh, Pa.

School Location	Pittsburgh, Pa.
Nickname	Panthers
Conference	ACC
Stadium	Acrisure Stadium
2025 Record	8-5
2025 Conference Record/Finish	6-2/T-2nd
2025 Bowl	Go Bowling Military Bowl; 23-17 Loss vs. ECU
Head Coach	Pat Narduzzi
Overall Record (Season)	80-61 (12th)
Record at School (Season)	80-61 (12th)
Series with UCF	Pitt leads 2-1
Last Meeting	Sept. 21, 2019 in Pittsburgh; Pitt 35, No. 15 UCF 34
X/Twitter	@Pitt_FB

Oklahoma State
Saturday, October 10
Boone Pickens Stadium
Stillwater, Okla.

School Location	Stillwater, Okla.
Nickname	Cowboys
Conference	Big 12
Stadium	Boone Pickens Stadium
2025 Record	1-11
2025 Conference Record/Finish	0-9/16th
2025 Bowl	N/A
Head Coach	Eric Morris
Overall Record (Season)	46-34 (7th)
Record at School (Season)	0-0 (1st)
Series with UCF	UCF leads 2-0
Last Meeting	Nov. 22, 2025 in Orlando; UCF 17, Oklahoma State 14
X/Twitter	@CowboyFB

Arizona State
Saturday, November 14
Acrisure Bounce House
Orlando, Fla.

School Location	Tempe, Ariz.
Nickname	Sun Devils
Conference	Big 12
Stadium	Mountain America Stadium
2025 Record	8-5
2025 Conference Record/Finish	6-3/T-4th
2025 Bowl	Tony the Tiger Sun Bowl; 42-39 Loss vs. Duke
Head Coach	Kenny Dillingham
Overall Record (Season)	22-17 (4th)
Record at School (Season)	22-17 (4th)
Series with UCF	Arizona State leads 2-0
Last Meeting	Nov. 9, 2024 in Tempe; Arizona State 35, UCF 31
X/Twitter	@ASUFootball

Georgia State
Saturday, September 19
Acrisure Bounce House
Orlando, Fla.

School Location	Atlanta, Ga.
Nickname	Panthers
Conference	Sun Belt
Stadium	Center Parc Credit Union
2025 Record	1-11
2025 Conference Record/Finish	0-8/7th, East Division
2025 Bowl	N/A
Head Coach	Dell McGee
Overall Record (Season)	5-20 (4th)
Record at School (Season)	4-20 (3rd)
Series with UCF	First Meeting
Last Meeting	N/A
X/Twitter	@GeorgiaStateFB

BYU
Saturday, October 24
Acrisure Bounce House
Orlando, Fla.

School Location	Provo, Utah
Nickname	Cougars
Conference	Big 12
Stadium	LaVelle Edwards Stadium
2025 Record	12-2
2025 Conference Record/Finish	8-1/T-1st
2025 Bowl	Pop-Tarts Bowl; 25-21 Win vs. No. 22 Georgia Tech
Head Coach	Kalani Sitake
Overall Record (Season)	84-45 (11th)
Record at School (Season)	84-45 (11th)
Series with UCF	BYU leads 4-1
Last Meeting	Nov. 29, 2025 in Provo; No. 11 BYU 41, UCF 21
X/Twitter	@BYUFootball

Iowa State
Friday, November 20
Acrisure Bounce House
Orlando, Fla.

School Location	Ames, Iowa
Nickname	Cyclones
Conference	Big 12
Stadium	MidAmerican Energy Field at Jack Trice Stadium
2025 Record	8-4
2025 Conference Record/Finish	5-4/T-7th
2025 Bowl	N/A; declined invite due to head coach departure
Head Coach	Jimmy Rogers
Overall Record (Season)	33-9 (4th)
Record at School (Season)	0-0 (1st)
Series with UCF	Iowa State leads 1-0
Last Meeting	Oct. 19, 2024 in Ames; No. 9 Iowa State 38, UCF 35
X/Twitter	@CycloneFB

TCU
Saturday, September 26
Acrisure Bounce House
Orlando, Fla.

School Location	Fort Worth, Texas
Nickname	Horned Frogs
Conference	Big 12
Stadium	Amon G. Carter Stadium
2025 Record	9-4
2025 Conference Record/Finish	5-4/T-7th
2025 Bowl	Valero Alamo Bowl; 30-27 Win vs. No. 16 USC
Head Coach	Sonny Dykes
Overall Record (Season)	107-80 (17th)
Record at School (Season)	36-17 (5th)
Series with UCF	UCF leads 1-0
Last Meeting	Sep. 14, 2024 in Fort Worth; UCF 35, TCU 34
X/Twitter	@TCUFootball

Baylor
Friday, October 30
Acrisure Bounce House
Orlando, Fla.

School Location	Waco, Texas
Nickname	Bears
Conference	Big 12
Stadium	McLane Stadium
2025 Record	5-7
2025 Conference Record/Finish	3-6/T-11th
2025 Bowl	N/A
Head Coach	Dave Aranda
Overall Record (Season)	36-37 (7th)
Record at School (Season)	36-37 (7th)
Series with UCF	Baylor leads 2-1
Last Meeting	Nov. 1, 2025 in Waco; Baylor 30, UCF 3
X/Twitter	@BUFootball

Colorado
Saturday, November 28
Folsom Field
Boulder, Colo.

School Location	Boulder, Colo.
Nickname	Buffaloes
Conference	Big 12
Stadium	Folsom Field
2025 Record	3-9
2025 Conference Record/Finish	1-8/15th
2025 Bowl	N/A
Head Coach	Deion Sanders
Overall Record (Season)	42-27 (7th)
Record at School (Season)	16-21 (4th)
Series with UCF	Colorado leads 1-0
Last Meeting	Sep. 28, 2024 in Orlando; Colorado 48, UCF 21
X/Twitter	@CUBuffsFootball