

## **NCAA Announces Dallas will Host 2031 Women's Final Four**

**DALLAS** (November 21, 2022) - The NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee announced Dallas has been selected to host the 2031 Women's Final Four at the American Airlines Center. This is the third time the Big 12 and Dallas have been selected to host a Women's Final Four, all since 2017.

"We're thrilled the NCAA and Women's Basketball Committee has again chosen Dallas as host city for the Women's Final Four," said Executive Director of the Dallas Sports Commission Monica Paul. "2031 will mark the third time since 2017 that the champion of women's college basketball will be crowned in Dallas. March Madness is the pinnacle of the collegiate game, and we're thrilled to crown the champion in our city in 2023 and 2031. We've proven again that we're a strong partner for top-level women's basketball."

The Big 12 and Dallas joined forces for the 2017 NCAA Women's Final Four at the American Airlines Center, as 19,310 fans saw South Carolina defeat Mississippi State for the championship. The 2023 Women's Final Four at American Airlines Center in Dallas will crown champions for all three NCAA divisions and serve as the culminating celebration for the 50th anniversary of Title IX.

"We are pleased to once again bring the Women's Final Four to Dallas," said Big 12 Commissioner Brett Yormark. "There is no bigger stage for women's college basketball, and we look forward to partnering with the Dallas Sports Commission to provide a best-in-class experience for this showcase event."

"We are thrilled that the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee has again chosen the American Airlines Center to host the Final Four," said Dave Brown, American Airlines Center Chief Operating Officer and General Manager. "Our venue is proud to be synonymous with top-level women's basketball. We're already looking forward to welcoming the sport's premier experience in 2023, and bringing it back in 2031 further solidifies the AAC as a key partner to this iconic, signature event."

Dallas and the North Texas region have also staged NCAA Men's Basketball championships, hosting the 2014 Men's Final Four at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, a 2013 Regional at AT&T Stadium, and First and Second Round games at the American Airlines Center in 2002, 2006, 2018 and 2024.

The games in Dallas will mark the eighth time that the Women's Final Four will be played in the state of Texas. In addition to Dallas hosting in 2017 and 2023, San Antonio hosted in 2002, 2010 and 2021. Austin hosted in 1985 and 1987.

[Click Here](#) for 2017 Women's Final Four Fan Experience B-Roll.

**Monica Paul, Executive Director of the Dallas Sports Commission, is available for interviews.**

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**NCAA Women's Final Four host cities for 2027-31  
announced; Columbus, Dallas, Indianapolis, Portland and  
San Antonio selected**

The NCAA Division I Women’s Basketball Committee announced the five cities selected to host the NCAA Women’s Final Four from 2027 through 2031. The cities include four past hosts and one new location, with Columbus, Ohio (Nationwide Arena) chosen to host in 2027; Indianapolis (Gainbridge Fieldhouse) in 2028; San Antonio (Alamodome) in 2029; Portland, Oregon (Moda Center) in 2030; and Dallas (American Airlines Center) in 2031.

“The Women’s Final Four is the premier women’s basketball event in the country, and it’s exciting to see the unprecedented amount of interest from cities to host in the future,” said Lisa Peterson, chair of the committee and senior associate commissioner for sports management with the Pac-12 Conference. “The committee appreciates all the cities involved in the highly competitive bid process. When we crown a national champion in the selected cities, our student-athletes, coaches and fans will have enjoyed an amazing championship experience.”

Columbus and Nationwide Arena previously hosted in 2018 in one of the more memorable Women’s Final Fours that featured two overtime national semifinal games for the first time and a national championship game decided on a buzzer beater. Notre Dame captured its second national title when Irish guard Arike Ogunbowale etched her name into Women’s Final Four lore with game-winning shots in both the national semifinals and national championship game.

Indianapolis has hosted the Women’s Final Four three times previously in 2005 (RCA Dome), 2011 and 2016. In 2016, when the event was held at what was then Bankers Life Fieldhouse, now Gainbridge Fieldhouse, UConn (38-0) won its fourth consecutive national championship, a first-time occurrence in Division I women’s basketball. With an 82-51 defeat of Syracuse in the national championship game that year, UConn earned its 11th title, tying the UCLA men’s basketball team’s all-time mark for Division I championships.

San Antonio has previously hosted the Women’s Final Four three times, in 2002, 2010 and 2021. In 2021, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, San Antonio and the surrounding region played host to the entire 63-game NCAA Division I Women’s Basketball Championship, which relied on a controlled environment. The Alamodome was the site when Stanford claimed the 2021 title in front of a limited capacity audience but was also the site in 2002 when the all-time Women’s Final Four attendance record was set when 29,619 were at the national semifinal games and the national championship game.

Portland will be hosting the Women’s Final Four for the first time in 2030. It will also mark the first time that the event is conducted in the state of Oregon. Portland and the Moda Center previously hosted NCAA Division I Women’s Basketball Championship regional play in 2019, was set to host in 2020 before the cancellation of the championship and will do so again in 2024.

Dallas, which is already preparing to host the Women’s Final Four and the Division II and III women’s basketball national championship games in 2023 (March 31-April 2), will be hosting for a third time in 2031. In 2017, the American Airlines Center played host to one of the biggest upsets in Women’s Final Four history when Mississippi State ended UConn’s historic 111-game winning streak in the national semifinals. Bulldogs junior guard Morgan William’s jumper at the overtime buzzer gave the Bulldogs a 66-64 win that also ended a 28-game NCAA tournament winning streak by UConn. South Carolina went on to win its first NCAA national championship that season, defeating Mississippi State in the title game.

In addition to Dallas in 2023, the other cities previously chosen to host before 2027 are Cleveland (Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse, April 5 and 7, 2024); Tampa Bay, Florida (Amalie Arena, April 4 and 6, 2025); and Phoenix (Footprint Center, April 3 and 5, 2026). Below is a complete list of future Women’s Final Four host sites from 2023 to 2031.

**NCAA Women's Final Four Future Host Cities**

Year/Dates	City	Host	Facility
2023: March 31 and April 2	Dallas	Big 12 Conference and the Dallas Sports Commission	American Airlines Center
2024: April 5 and 7	Cleveland	Mid American Conference and the	Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse

		Greater Cleveland Sports Commission	
2025: April 4 and 6	Tampa Bay, Florida	University of South Florida and the Tampa Bay Sports Commission	Amalie Arena
2026: April 3 and 5	Phoenix	Arizona State University	Footprint Center
2027: April 2 and 4	Columbus, Ohio	The Ohio State University and the Greater Columbus Sports Commission	Nationwide Arena
2028: March 31 and April 2	Indianapolis	Horizon League, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis and the Indiana Sports Corp	Gainbridge Fieldhouse
2029: March 30 and April 1	San Antonio	University of the Incarnate Word, University of Texas at San Antonio and San Antonio Sports	Alamodome
2030: April 5 and 7	Portland, Oregon	University of Portland and Sport Oregon	Moda Center
2031: April 4 and 6	Dallas	Big 12 Conference and the Dallas Sports Commission	American Airlines Center

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