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COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF NAMES JUSTIN FUENTE SENIOR ADVISOR FOR FOOTBALL

Rich Clark, Executive Director of the College Football Playoff (CFP), announced today that Justin Fuente has been named the CFP's Senior Advisor for Football.

Fuente comes to the CFP after a 21-year coaching career at the collegiate level, serving most recently as the head coach at Virginia Tech from 2016-21 and University of Memphis from 2012-15. His 2014 Memphis Tigers captured the American Conference championship, and Fuente garnered conference coach of the year honors in both 2014 (American) and 2016 (Atlantic Coast Conference).

"We are excited to have Justin joining the CFP," Clark said. "He is well respected among his peers in college football, has an impressive knowledge of the game and understands the perspective of coaches and players. He will be a great fit for our team."

In this newly-created role, Fuente will be responsible for providing guidance on designated operational matters that enhance the overall quality of the CFP, including consulting with the FBS conference offices, NCAA, NCAA National Coordinator of Football Officiating and the CFP's Chief Medical Officer. He will also work with the CFP staff on the implementation of playoff policies and best practices related to game operations, officiating, technology and other policy considerations.

"I am thrilled about this new opportunity for my family and me," Fuente said. "Football has been an important part of my life as a player, teammate and coach, and I appreciate this chance to give back to the game I love. I look forward to working with the College Football Playoff staff and helping to grow one of the great events in all of sports."

Prior to joining his head coaching stops at Virginia Tech and Memphis, Fuente spent 11 seasons in a variety of offensive assistant coaching roles at Illinois State (2001-06) and TCU (2007-11). A standout high school quarterback at Union High School in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Fuente attended the University of Oklahoma before transferring to Murray State University. After graduation, he played for the Oklahoma Wranglers of the Arena Football League in 2000 and 2001 before transitioning into coaching.

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About the College Football Playoff

The College Football Playoff (CFP) is the event that crowns the national champion in college football. The CFP selection committee ranks the top 25 teams at the end of the regular season. The five highest ranked conference champions and the next seven highest-ranked teams will be seeded into a 12-team bracket based on the final ranking, with the four highest-ranked teams receiving a first-round bye. The teams ranked Nos. 5-12 will play in the CFP First Round, with the higher seeds hosting the lower seeds. The Playoff Quarterfinals and Playoff Semifinals rotate annually among six bowl games – the Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic, Vrbo Fiesta Bowl, Capital One Orange Bowl, Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl, Rose Bowl Game presented by Prudential and the Allstate Sugar Bowl. The College Football Playoff National Championship will be on Monday, January 19, 2026, at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, Florida. For additional information on the College Football Playoff, visit CollegeFootballPlayoff.com.

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