

Football transfer portal busy nationwide

Paul Myerberg
USA TODAY

About 4,000 players have entered the transfer portal since it opened on Jan. 2, with a growing slice of that number finding a spot with a new program.

Here's one way to frame this year's portal bonanza. There are approximately 14,300 players in the Football Bowl Subdivision, with 136 teams and about 105 players per team. Even when subtracting lower division transfers, the number of names in the portal represents about a quarter of all players in the FBS.

Already, some of the biggest names and biggest teams in the country have made a transfer splash. That starts with two high-profile quarterback transfers in Texas Tech's Brendan Sorsby and Indiana's Josh Hoover.

Starting with that pair, let's dig into the early portal happenings by evaluating the best finds and fits among the first round of commitments:

QB Brendan Sorsby, Texas Tech (former school: Cincinnati)

Sorsby didn't take long to table hop from the Bearcats to Texas Tech, where he'll replace Behren Morton and potentially represent a missing piece that carries the Red Raiders deeper into the College Football Playoff. He has previous Big 12 experience and will bring a different dimension to Tech's offense as one of the top dual-threat quarterbacks (2,800 passing yards and 580 rushing yards this season) in the Power Four.

QB Josh Hoover, Indiana (TCU)

Once a verbal commitment to the Hoosiers under previous coach Tom Allen, Hoover finally arrives in Bloomington after two-plus years as the starter for Sonny Dykes at TCU. In that time, he's developed into one of the most productive passers in the Power Four, though turnovers have been a concern. Like Fernando Mendoza before him, Hoover should keep the Hoosiers offense humming and contend for the Heisman Trophy.

DB Jontez Williams, Southern Cal (Iowa State)

This has been the biggest defensive addition to date. While he'll need to show he's recovered from the knee injury that cost him the second half of the 2025 season, Williams was one of the Power Four's top cornerbacks when healthy and was on the way to earning All-American accolades. He could be the stopper the Trojans need to take the next step in the Big Ten.

QB Drew Mestemaker, RB Caleb Hawkins and WR Wyatt Young, Oklahoma State (North Texas)

These underclassmen are set to follow Eric Morris to Oklahoma State, giving the Cowboys three major pieces as building blocks on offense who starred with the Mean Green. Mestemaker was terrific as a walk-on freshman, going for 4,379 yards and 34 touchdowns to help North Texas reach the American Conference title game. Hawkins had only lower-level scholarship offers but ran for 1,434 yards as a true freshman. Young is a rising junior who pulled down a team-leading 70 grabs for 1,264 yards in 2025.

DT Ian Geffrard, Texas (Arkansas)

Geffrard is a 387-pound rising junior who matches new defensive coordinator Will Muschamp's need for a block-eating, space-filling interior lineman. He started every game in 2025 for the Razorbacks, making 25 tackles (four for loss), and should step right into the lineup with the Longhorns set to lose Travis Shaw and Cole Brevard.

WR Nick Marsh, Indiana (Michigan State)

This is a huge in-conference addition that will help Indiana replace seniors Elijah Sarratt and E.J. Williams Jr. while preparing for the possibility that junior Omar Cooper Jr. opts into the NFL draft. Marsh was the Spartans' offensive bright spot the past two years, posting a combined 100 receptions for 1,311 yards.

OT Kolt Dieterich, Washington (Sam Houston State)

The leap from Group of Five to Power Four can be difficult for offensive linemen, and Dietrich may struggle in the transition despite ranking among the top tackles in Conference USA in 2025. But the junior is a very solid addition because of his ability to play both tackle spots, making him at minimum a valuable depth piece for the Huskies and potentially the starter on the left side.

QB Byrum Brown, Auburn (South Florida)

Bringing Brown along from USF will help speed up new coach Alex Golesh's rebuilding project. Brown was a revelation as a first-year starter in 2025 as one of just two FBS quarterbacks to throw for at least 2,000 yards and run for another 1,000. While those numbers won't carry over to the SEC, Brown's grasp of the system will help the offense hit the ground running after a dismal three



North Texas quarterback Drew Mestemaker threw for 4,379 yards and 34 TD passes while completing 68.9% of his passes in 2025. DANNY WILD/IMAGN IMAGES

years under former coach Hugh Freeze.

DB Marcus Neal Jr., Penn State (Iowa State)

Neal is one of many ISU players who have since followed Matt Campbell to Happy Valley, along with quarterback Rocco Becht, standout tight end Ben Brahmer and young offensive lineman Will Tompkins, among others. While Becht is the big name in this transfer haul, Neal should have a major impact on the defensive side after earning all-conference honors with 77 tackles (11 for loss) as a first-year starter in 2025.

DB Jay Crawford, Ole Miss (Auburn)

Ole Miss has stayed busy while preparing for the College Football Playoff

semifinals against Miami. In addition to retaining star running back Kewan Lacey, Pete Golding and the Rebels will add an SEC-tested cornerback in Crawford, who had an outstanding freshman year in 2024 and made 10 starts for Auburn this season.

RB Makhi Hughes, Houston (Oregon)

After a lost season in Eugene, Hughes looks to reignite his promising career by reuniting with former Tulane coach Willie Fritz. Hughes ran for 1,378 yards in Fritz's scheme in 2023 and then another 1,401 yards and 17 total touchdowns the following year before failing to crack the rotation for the Ducks in 2025. He'll provide a big spark for a running game that went for at least 200 yards in each of the final four games of this season.

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NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re: **CLEARSIDE BIOMEDICAL, INC.,**
Debtor.

Chapter 11
Case No. 25-12109 (TMH)

NOTICE OF DEADLINES FOR THE FILING OF PROOFS OF CLAIM, INCLUDING REQUESTS FOR PAYMENTS UNDER SECTION 503(b)(9) OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE

THE GENERAL BAR DATE IS JANUARY 26, 2026 AT 11:59 P.M. (EASTERN TIME)

THE GOVERNMENTAL BAR DATE IS MAY 22, 2026, AT 11:59 P.M. (EASTERN TIME)

THE AMENDED SCHEDULES BAR DATE IS AS DEFINED HEREIN. THE REJECTION DAMAGES BAR DATE IS AS DEFINED HEREIN

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE OF THE FOLLOWING: Deadlines for Filing Proofs of Claim. On December 31, 2025, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Court") entered an order [Docket No. 141] (the "Bar Date Order") establishing certain deadlines for the filing of proofs of claim, including requests for payment under section 503(b)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code, in the chapter 11 case of Clearside Biomedical, Inc., as debtor and debtor in possession (the "Debtor").

The Bar Dates. Pursuant to the Bar Date Order, all entities (except governmental units), including individuals, partnerships, estates, and trusts who have a claim or potential claim against the Debtor that arose before November 23, 2025 (the "Petition Date"), no matter how remote or contingent such right to payment or equitable remedy may be, **including** requests for payment under section 503(b)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code, **MUST FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM** on or before **January 26, 2026, at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time** (the "General Bar Date"). Governmental entities who have a claim or potential claim against the Debtor that arose before the Petition Date, no matter how remote or contingent such right to payment or equitable remedy may be, **MUST FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM** on or before **May 22, 2026, at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time** (the "Governmental Bar Date"). All entities who have a claim or potential claim against the Debtor based on any amendment by the Debtor of its schedules of assets and liabilities (the "Schedules"), no matter how remote or contingent such right to payment or equitable remedy may be, if they so choose, **MUST FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM** on the later of (a) the General Bar Date or the Governmental Bar Date, as applicable to such claim, and (b) 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on the date that is twenty one (21) days from the date on which the Debtor provides notice of the amendment of the Schedules (the "Amended Schedules Bar Date"). All entities who have a claim or potential claim against the Debtor based on the Debtor's rejection of an executory contract or unexpired lease, no matter how remote or contingent such right to payment or equitable remedy may be, **MUST FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM** on the later of (i) the General Bar Date, (ii) thirty (30) days after the later of (A) entry of an order approving the rejection of any executory contract or unexpired lease of the Debtor or (B) the effective date of a rejection of any executory contract or unexpired lease of the Debtor pursuant to operation of any Court order (the "Rejection Claim Bar Date" and collectively with the General Bar Date, the Governmental Bar Date and the Amended Schedules Bar Date, the "Bar Dates").

ANY PERSON OR ENTITY WHO FAILS TO FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM, INCLUDING ANY REQUEST FOR PAYMENT UNDER SECTION 503(b)(9) OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE, ON OR BEFORE THE APPLICABLE BAR DATE SHALL NOT BE TREATED AS A CREDITOR WITH RESPECT TO SUCH CLAIM

NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

FOR THE PURPOSES OF VOTING AND DISTRIBUTION ON ANY CHAPTER 11 PLAN.

Filing a Proof of Claim. Each proof of claim must be filed, including supporting documentation, so as to be **actually received** by the Debtor's claims and noticing agent, Epig Corporate Restructuring, LLC ("Epig"), on or before the applicable Bar Date, either: (i) electronically through the Online Portal available at <https://dm.epig1.com/clearsidebiomedical> under "Case Actions" and by clicking on "File a Claim" or (ii) by U.S. Mail, overnight mail, or other hand delivery system, at the following address:
If by First Class Mail to: Clearside Biomedical, Inc., Claims Processing Center c/o Epig Corporate Restructuring, LLC, P.O. Box 4421 Beaverton, OR 97076-4421.

If by Overnight Courier or Hand Delivery: Clearside Biomedical, Inc., Claims Processing Center c/o Epig Corporate Restructuring, LLC, 10390 SW Allen Blvd. Beaverton, OR 97005.

Contents of Proofs of Claim. Each proof of claim must (i) be written in English; (ii) include a claim amount denominated in United States dollars using, if applicable, the exchange rate as of 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, on the Petition Date (and to the extent such claim is converted to United States dollars, state the rate used in such conversion); (iii) conform substantially with the Proof of Claim Form provided by the Debtor or Official Form 410; (iv) be signed by the claimant or by an authorized agent or legal representative of the claimant; and (v) include as attachments any and all supporting documentation on which the claim is based.

Section 503(b)(9) Requests for Payment. Any proof of claim asserting a claim arising under section 503(b)(9) of the Bankruptcy Code must also (i) include the value of the goods delivered to and received by the Debtor in the twenty (20) days before the Petition Date; (ii) attach any documentation identifying the particular invoices for which such 503(b)(9) claim is being asserted; and (iii) attach documentation of any redemption demand made to the Debtor under section 546(c) of the Bankruptcy Code (if applicable).

Additional Information. If you require additional information regarding the filing of a proof of claim, you may contact Epig by calling the Debtor's restructuring hotline at: 866-965-5474 (U.S.) or 1-503-558-6554 (International), or writing (i) via first class mail, to Clearside Biomedical, Inc., Claims Processing Center, c/o Epig Corporate Restructuring, LLC, P.O. Box 4421, Beaverton, OR 97076-4421, or (ii) via email to: ClearsideBiomedical@epigglobal.com with a reference to "Clearside Biomedical, Inc." in the subject line.

Please note that Epig cannot offer legal advice or advise whether you should file a proof of claim.

Wilmington, Delaware, January 5, 2026. */s/ Alexander R. Steigler*, Daniel J. Defranceschi (No. 2732), Michael J. Merchant (No. 3854), Alexander R. Steigler (No. 7139), **RICHARDS, LAYTON & FINGER, P.A.**, One Rodney Square, 920 N. King Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, Telephone: (302) 651-7700, Emails: defranceschi@rlf.com, merchant@rlf.com, steigler@rlf.com and Daniel Shamah (admitted *pro hac vice*), Lauren A. Reichardt (admitted *pro hac vice*), Olya Andle (admitted *pro hac vice*) Miriam A. Peguero Medrano (admitted *pro hac vice*), **COOLEY LLP**, 55 Hudson Yards, New York, New York 10001-2157, Telephone: (212) 479-6000, Emails: dshamah@cooley.com, lreichardt@cooley.com, oandle@cooley.com, mpegueromedrano@cooley.com, counsel@theDebtorandDebtorinPossession.com

¹ The Debtor and the last four digits of its taxpayer identification number are: Clearside Biomedical, Inc. (7375). The Debtor's mailing address is 900 North Point Parkway, Suite 200, Alpharetta, Georgia 30005.

NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Sourcewell, a State of Minnesota local government unit and service cooperative, is requesting proposals for Roadway Paving Equipment to result in a procurement solution for use by its Participating Entities.

Sourcewell Participating Entities include thousands of governmental, higher education, K-12 education, nonprofit, tribal government, and other public agencies located in the United States and Canada.

A full copy of the Request for Proposals can be found on the Sourcewell Procurement Portal <https://portal.sourcewell-mn.gov>.

Only proposals submitted through the Sourcewell Procurement Portal will be considered.

Proposals are due no later than February 26, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. Central Time, and late proposals will not be considered.

The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) has posted procurement solicitations at www.tips-usa.com for the following categories:

260101 Assistive Technology Goods and Services

260102 Comprehensive Facilities Management and Services

260103 Janitorial and Sanitation Supplies and Services

260104 Trades, Labor, and Materials (2 Part with JOC)

260105 Technology Solutions, Products, and Services

The proposal is due and will be opened on **February 20, 2026, at 3:00 pm local time.**

Call 866-839-8477 for problems with website or questions.

REQUEST FOR BIDS – PEPPM Cooperative Purchasing Program

Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit #16 (CSIU) is accepting sealed bids for its **PEPPM 2026 Catalog Bid**, from bidders for technology- and instruction-related equipment, software, services, and related products sold through catalog-based offerings to local educational agencies and other eligible public agencies in Pennsylvania and optionally other states for the PEPPM Cooperative Purchasing Program.

Bid Due Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026, 3:00 p.m. ET
Submission: Electronic bids at www.epylon.com

Public Bid Opening: Thursday, February 12, 2026, 3:00 p.m. ET. CSIU reserves the right to conduct the opening electronically or to broadcast the opening of bids via teleconference or video conference, in lieu of an in-person meeting.

Registration: Required at www.epylon.com (no fee)

Details and Bid Documents available at: www.peppm.org/bids

Bid Withdrawal: No bidder may withdraw its bid for 90 days after the bid opening date.

Installation of certain products purchased under resulting contracts may be subject to applicable prevailing wage laws and rates. Reference is made to the prevailing minimum wage rates applicable to such installation.

The CSIU reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and/or to waive any or all informalities or irregularities in a bid.

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Request for Proposals (RFPs)

Multiple Opportunities Available

Proposal Deadlines

12:00 PM ET, February 12, 2026

Educational Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (ECPA), acting as the Lead Public Agency on behalf of Edge Public and participating entities—including all K–12 schools, local and state government agencies, higher education institutions, and nonprofit organizations—is seeking proposals from qualified vendors for a range of RFPs:

- ADA Compliance - Digital Accessibility
- ADA Compliance - Digital Accessibility - Consulting
- Paint and Related Supplies
- Promotional Items and Services
- Batteries, Power and Lighting

Contracts resulting from this solicitation may be awarded to multiple vendors. All RFPs are subject to the Lead Public Agency's General Conditions & Requirements to Offerors. Full specifications and proposal documents are available via the CIESC Procurement Portal at <https://ciesc.cooppurchase.com>. **Only proposals submitted through this portal will be accepted.**

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Request for Proposals (RFPs)

The University of North Texas System ("UNTS") UNTS, in cooperation with Illinois Public Higher Education Cooperative (IPHEC), is seeking competitive responses to a Request for Qualifications ("RFQ") for staffing solutions for Colleges, Universities and other educational entities - NIGP Codes 961-30, 961-02 and 961-71. — for use in higher education institutions, K–12 schools, local and state government agencies, and nonprofit organizations—is seeking proposals from qualified suppliers for

RFQ769-26-121925KL Comprehensive Recruitment Service

Contracts resulting from this solicitation may be awarded to multiple suppliers. All RFPs are subject to the Lead Public Agency's General Conditions & Requirements to Offerors. Full specifications and proposal documents are available via <https://bids.scquest.com/apps/Router/PublicEvent?CustomerOrg=UNTS>

Only proposals submitted through this portal will be accepted.

Event Open Date: 12/19/2025 Question Close Date: 2/13/2026
Event Close 3/27/2026 2:00 PM CT

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