

Recruiting Outlook: Rico Flores Jr., Noah Rogers Have OSU Among Top Schools, Buckeyes Offer 2026 Prospect



Recruiting Outlook is a regular series on Buckeye Sports Bulletin designed to be your one-stop shop for all news related to the Ohio State football recruiting trail.

Ohio State is in the running for a pair of wide receivers who listed the Buckeyes among their top schools on Thursday: Folsom, Calif., four-star Rico Flores Jr. (6-1, 190) and Rolesville, N.C., four-star Noah Rogers (6-2, 180).

Flores included Ohio State along with Georgia and Notre Dame - leaving out Texas and UCLA, who were in his previous top five in February - and will announce his school of choice on July 3.

3... <https://t.co/9wlpFtFcE9> pic.twitter.com/3gkmjn41QQ

— Rico Flores Jr. (@lil_reek_) May 12, 2022

He is the No. 193 overall prospect in 2023 and the No. 26 wide receiver. He was offered by Ohio State in November and visited in early April, after which he tweeted that, "It's going to be hard for anyone to top OSU."

Rogers was the other top receiver that had Ohio State among his top schools, including the Buckeyes with Clemson, Florida State, North Carolina and NC State. He's the No. 59 overall prospect and No. 10 wide receiver in the class.

5☐....!!! pic.twitter.com/sFsz2EdUZh

— Noah Rogers (@noah1rogers) May 12, 2022

Ohio State offered Rogers on Jan. 12 and faces fierce competition from the in-state Wolfpack, who have hosted Rogers for several unofficial visits since offering him last March. He visited for Ohio State's spring game on April 16. Though no commitment date has been set, Rogers told 247Sports that a decision could be coming this month.

With Ohio State still heavily involved with Fort Lauderdale (Fla.) American Heritage five-star receiver Brandon Inniss (6-0, 190) and Bradenton (Fla.) IMG Academy four-star receiver Carnell Tate (6-2, 185), it could be a battle between Flores and Rogers to see who commits first leading up to Flores' July commitment date.

Ohio State leads in 247Sports crystal ball predictions for Rogers, while Flores has one prediction from recruiting analyst Steve Wilfong to Notre Dame.

The Buckeyes already have one wide receiver commitment in 2023 with Zephyrhills (Fla.) Wiregrass Ranch three-star Bryson Rodgers (6-2, 170), who committed to Ohio State in April.

Ohio State Offers 2026 Defensive Lineman

Recall, if you will, what you might have been up to in the eighth grade. You might have been worried about classes or the upcoming transition to high school, but it's unlikely you gave much thought to receiving a scholarship offer from Ohio State.

If that did happen to you, your name might be Tyler Atkinson, a defensive end from Georgia who became the first member of the 2026 recruiting class to receive an offer from the Buckeyes on Wednesday.

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@CoachM_Patrick @CoachTimWalton pic.twitter.com/uMHyy3mYfV

— Tyler Atkinson (@Tyler16Atkinson) May 12, 2022

Atkinson (6-3, 190) is only an eighth-grader and holds six Division I offers, including Auburn, Georgia, Georgia Tech and Ole Miss in addition to his recent Ohio State offer. According to 247Sports, he is expected to play high school ball at Grayson High School in Loganville, Ga.