



Isaiah Simmons  
Clemson

OLB  
#11

**6026 230 4.47**  
BP XX, VJ 36.9, BJ 11-10, SS 4.52, 3C XXX

**6.9**  
[VIDEO ▶▶](#)

**BACKGROUND:** From Olathe, Kansas. All-State defensive back in high school who also played offense. Picked Clemson over offers from Michigan, Nebraska, Missouri and Illinois and several other schools. Redshirted in 2016. Participated in the long jump (24'5") with the Clemson track team in the spring. Starting safety (49 tackles, 3 TFL, 1 sack, 5 PBU, 1 FF) in 2017. Moved to starting nickel/SAM linebacker (team-high 97 tackles, 9.5 TFL, 1.5 sacks, 1-27-1 INT, 7 PBU, 3 FF) in 2018. Finished his career with 91 tackles, 14 TFL, 2-39 INT, 6 PBU, 1 FF, 1 FR in 2019.

**POSITIVES:** Rare blend of athletic ability, size, quickness and speed. Very good length with long arms and legs. Has the movement skills of a defensive back in a linebacker's body. Excellent range and open-field tackling ability. Outstanding closing speed. Will hit. Plays the run well. Reads and diagnoses quickly. Disrupts in the backfield and can blow things up behind the line of scrimmage. Sound instincts and natural feel for the game. Good football intelligence and discipline. Sets the edge, plays off blocks, and explodes to the ball carrier. Has a knack for avoiding blockers and is very slippery navigating through traffic. Wrap up tackler. Hustles to pursue and makes tackles all over the field. Highly versatile; can line up over the slot and cover backs, tight ends and receivers in coverage. Very smooth in transition with fluid hips. Above average feel in zone coverage. Good ball reactions and hands. Explosive blitzing off the edge or from inside. Can overpower running backs and out-quick tight ends. Great timing and anticipation. Tough, competitive and intense. Will excel on special teams. Hard worker who is always looking to get better. Maximum effort, high-motor, all-out player. Sound character and family background.

**NEGATIVES:** Lacks great bulk and strength. Occasionally misses some tackles and doesn't necessarily tackle with a lot of force. Will drop his head at times when tackling. Could use some improvement on coverage technique and footwork; relying too much on pure athletic ability and speed sometimes. Shows some hesitation in zone coverage.

**SUMMARY:** Unicorn talent who is a playmaker who can line up just about anywhere for a defensive coordinator. Safe, solid, clean prospect who should be an early-first round pick and immediate starter. Can become a leaner, faster, more explosive Anthony Barr.