

California State University, Long Beach

Long Beach, CA • Public School



The most comprehensive guide to free speech on campus — anywhere

Because a true university education requires freedom of expression.

The College Free Speech Rankings are based on student surveys, campus policies, and recent speech-related controversies.

OVERALL RANK

107 ▼

/257

▼ FROM 2024

GRADE

F

SPEECH CONTROVERSIES

0

— 0 FROM 2025

Overview

California State University, Long Beach ranks 107 out of 257 schools in the 2026 College Free Speech Rankings, earning a score of 59 and an F speech climate grade. With no major speech incidents on record, its position largely reflects student perceptions and a “yellow light” Spotlight rating.

CSULB places in the top 25 for both “Comfort Expressing Ideas” and “Administrative Support.” Middling performance in “Political Tolerance” and “Disruptive Conduct” left its overall climate weak.

CSULB could improve by revising its written speech policies to earn a “green light” Spotlight rating, adopting a free speech statement based on the Chicago Statement, and adopting an official commitment to institutional neutrality.

Spotlight Rating

Yellow



FIRE’s Spotlight database annually rates regulations on student expression based on the extent to which they restrict free speech.

If you are a school administrator and would like to discuss your rating, reach out to speechcodes@thefire.org.

Visit our website: <https://rankings.thefire.org/> for more information.

HIGHLIGHTS



39% of students say they have self-censored on campus at least once or twice a month.



73% of students say shouting down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.



39% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

5.91:1

There are roughly 5.91 liberal students for every one conservative student.

Institutional Neutrality

NOT ADOPTED



Chicago Statement for Free Speech

NOT ADOPTED



SCORE DEEP DIVE

COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS

D+

DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

C

OPENNESS

C

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D-

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

D-

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

O

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

O

DEPLATFORMINGS

O