

# Florida State University

Tallahassee, FL • 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

17   
/257

 -14 FROM 2024

## GRADE

C-

 C FROM 2024

## SPEECH CONTROVERSIES

1

— 1 FROM 2025

## Overview

“Florida State University ranks 17 out of 257 schools in the 2026 College Free Speech Rankings with a score of 71, earning a C- speech climate grade. The university earns a “green light” Spotlight rating and benefits from the State University System of Florida’s adoption of the Chicago Statement. Although students attempted to disinvite conservative commentator Charlie Kirk, the event proceeded, highlighting the administration’s willingness to uphold expressive rights.

Student perceptions point to a trouble spot, as FSU places in the bottom 25 for “Openness,” suggesting that students have difficulty discussing certain topics.

FSU could strengthen its speech culture by adopting an official commitment to institutional neutrality.

### Spotlight Rating

Green 

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](mailto:speechcodes@thefire.org).

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

## HIGHLIGHTS



48% of students say they have self-censored on campus at least once or twice a month.



67% of students say shouting down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.



35% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

1.67:1

There are roughly 1.67 liberal students for every one conservative student.

### Institutional Neutrality

NOT ADOPTED



### Chicago Statement for Free Speech

ADOPTED



## SCORE DEEP DIVE

### COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS

D

▼ DECREASE

### DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

C+

▲ INCREASE

### OPENNESS

D

▼ DECREASE

### SELF-CENSORSHIP

D-

▼ DECREASE

### ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

F

▼ DECREASE

### POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▲ INCREASE

### SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

0

### STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

0

### DEPLATFORMINGS

1