

# University of Louisville

Louisville, KY • 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

39 ▼  
/257

▼ -20 FROM 2024

## GRADE

D

▼ C- FROM 2024

## SPEECH CONTROVERSIES

0

— 0 FROM 2025

## Overview

University of Louisville ranks 39 out of 257 schools in the 2026 College Free Speech Rankings with a score of 66. That score leaves UofL with a D speech climate grade. The university earns a “green light” Spotlight rating.

Student perceptions place UofL in the bottom 25 for both “Disruptive Conduct” and “Openness,” suggesting wide acceptance of shout-downs and reluctance to discuss contentious topics. No survey area lands in the top 50.

UofL could improve by adopting the Chicago Statement and an official commitment to institutional neutrality, as well as educating students on when expression crosses into unprotected conduct.

### 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



49% of students say they have self-censored on campus at least once or twice a month.



72% 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.

2.48:1

There are roughly 2.48 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

NEUTRAL

DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

C

▼ DECREASE

OPENNESS

D

▼ DECREASE

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D-

▼ DECREASE

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

F

▼ DECREASE

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▼ DECREASE

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

O

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

O

DEPLATFORMINGS

O