

# The University of Texas at San Antonio

San Antonio, TX • 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

62 ▲  
/257

▲ 26 FROM 2024

## GRADE

D-

▲ F FROM 2024

## SPEECH CONTROVERSIES

2

1 FROM 2025

## Overview

The University of Texas at San Antonio ranks 62 out of 257 schools in the 2026 College Free Speech Rankings with a score of 62, a D- speech climate grade. The school has made progress since the University of Texas System recently adopted institutional neutrality — applying to the San Antonio campus, though a Board of Regents order banning drag shows cost the campus points.

Student perceptions remain middling, except for an alarming bottom 50 ranking for “Openness” to discussing controversial issues. No survey area cracks the top 50, suggesting room for growth across the board. The university also continues to earn a “yellow light” Spotlight rating that limits its score.

UTSA could strengthen its free speech climate by revising restrictive policies to earn a “green light” Spotlight rating and by making clear that viewpoint-based bans on student events will not be repeated.

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.

### Spotlight Rating

Yellow

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

HIGHLIGHTS



34% 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.



30% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

3.51:1

There are roughly 3.51 liberal students for every one conservative student.

Institutional Neutrality

ADOPTED



Chicago Statement for Free Speech

ADOPTED



SCORE DEEP DIVE

COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS

D

▲ INCREASE

DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

C+

▲ INCREASE

OPENNESS

D+

▼ DECREASE

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D-

▼ DECREASE

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

D-

▲ INCREASE

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▲ INCREASE

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

0

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

1

DEPLATFORMINGS

1