

University of Wyoming

Laramie, WY • 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

41 ▲

/257

▲ 80 FROM 2024

GRADE

D

▲ D- FROM 2024

SPEECH CONTROVERSIES

0

— 0 FROM 2025

Overview

The University of Wyoming ranks 41 out of 257 schools in the 2026 College Free Speech Rankings. The school earned a score of 66 and a D speech climate grade, climbing 80 places from last year. Much of that progress followed policy reforms that moved its Spotlight rating from a “red light” to a “yellow light.” UW also has commitments to both the Chicago Statement and institutional neutrality.

Student perceptions place UW in the top 25 for “Political Tolerance” and in the top 50 for both “Administrative Support” for speech and rejection of “Disruptive Conduct.” However, the school ranks in the bottom 25 for “Openness” to discussing specific controversial topics.

Wyoming could continue its upward trajectory by revising remaining policies to secure a “green light” Spotlight rating and by creating forums that foster open dialogue.

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



54% of students say they have self-censored on campus at least once or twice a month.



62% of students say shouting down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.



27% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

1.22:1

There are roughly 1.22 conservative students for every one liberal student.

Institutional Neutrality

ADOPTED



Chicago Statement for Free Speech

ADOPTED



SCORE DEEP DIVE

COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS

D

▲ INCREASE

DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

B-

▼ DECREASE

OPENNESS

D-

▼ DECREASE

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D-

▼ DECREASE

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

D-

▼ DECREASE

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▼ DECREASE

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

0

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

0

DEPLATFORMINGS

0