

Arizona State University

Tempe, AZ • 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

29 ▼
/261

▼ -6 FROM 2025

GRADE

C-

C- FROM 2025

CONTROVERSIES

0

0 FROM 2026

Overview

Arizona State University ranks 29 out of 261 schools in the 2027 College Free Speech Rankings with a score of 72 and a C- speech climate grade. ASU holds a “green light” Spotlight rating and has adopted the pro-free speech Chicago Statement.

ASU lands in the bottom 50 for “Openness,” meaning many contentious topics feel off-limits to students. Its “Administrative Support” rank also tumbled 107 places from last year, indicating reduced student trust in officials to defend speech. The data shows no top 50 strengths.

ASU should adopt an official commitment to institutional neutrality and respond clearly and forcefully to defend free speech whenever censorship occurs or is demanded. Doing so will demonstrate the university’s commitment to free speech and build community trust that the administration will defend expressive rights.

[View the Full Spotlight Rating](#)

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@fire.org.

Visit our website, rankings.fire.org, for more information.

HIGHLIGHTS



55% 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.



34% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

2.38 : 1

There are roughly 2.38 liberal students for every one conservative student.

Institutional Neutrality

NOT ADOPTED



Chicago Statement for Free Speech

ADOPTED



SCORE DEEP DIVE

COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS

D

▲ INCREASE

DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

C+

▲ INCREASE

OPENNESS

D+

— NO CHANGE

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D-

— NO CHANGE

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

F

▼ DECREASE

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▼ DECREASE

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

O

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

O

DEPLATFORMINGS

O