

Adams State University

Alamosa, CO • 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

225

/261

GRADE

F

CONTROVERSIES

0

0 FROM 2026

Overview

Adams State University ranks 225 out of 261 schools in the 2027 College Free Speech Rankings with a score of 55 and an F speech climate grade.

Adams State ranks in the top 25 for “Comfort Expressing Ideas” and the top 50 for “Openness”, meaning students feel comfortable sharing views and fewer contentious topics feel off-limits. However, it lands in the bottom 25 for “Disruptive Conduct” and “Self-Censorship”, suggesting greater acceptance of non-peaceful protest tactics and more frequent student hesitation to speak.

The campus maintains a “red light” Spotlight rating. Adams State should revise its student policies to earn a “green light” Spotlight rating and adopt the pro-free speech Chicago Statement and an official commitment to institutional neutrality. The university should also respond clearly and forcefully to defend free speech whenever censorship occurs or is demanded.

[View the Full Spotlight Rating](#)

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.

Spotlight Rating

Red



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

HIGHLIGHTS



38% of students say they have self-censored on campus at least once or twice a month.



66% of students say shouting down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.



47% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

1.75 : 1

There are roughly 1.75 conservative students for every one liberal student.

Institutional Neutrality

NOT ADOPTED



Chicago Statement for Free Speech

NOT ADOPTED



SCORE DEEP DIVE

COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS

C-

DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

C-

OPENNESS

C+

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D-

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

D-

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

O

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

O

DEPLATFORMINGS

O