

Illinois Institute of Technology

Chicago, IL • Private 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

220 ▼

/261

▼ -14 FROM 2025

GRADE

F

F FROM 2025

CONTROVERSIES

0

0 FROM 2026

Overview

Illinois Institute of Technology ranks 220 out of 261 schools in the 2027 College Free Speech Rankings with a score of 55 and an F speech climate grade.

IIT ranks in the top 25 for “Self-Censorship” and “Openness,” indicating that students report comparatively less hesitancy to speak and that fewer contentious topics feel off-limits. However, it lands in the bottom 50 for “Administrative Support,” indicating little student trust that administrators will defend speech.

IIT retains a “red light” Spotlight rating. IIT should revise its student codes to earn a “green light” Spotlight rating and adopt the pro-free speech Chicago Statement and an official commitment to institutional neutrality. Given its weak showing on “Administrative Support,” administrators should 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



32% of students say they have self-censored on campus at least once or twice a month.



69% of students say shouting down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.



35% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

3.95 : 1

There are roughly 3.95 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+

▲ INCREASE

DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

C+

▼ DECREASE

OPENNESS

B-

— NO CHANGE

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D+

▲ INCREASE

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

F

▲ INCREASE

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▼ DECREASE

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

0

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

0

DEPLATFORMINGS

0