# Clark University

*Worcester, MA • Private School*

College Free Speech RANKINGS

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**

69 ▲

/261

▲ 125 FROM 2025

**GRADE**

D

▲ F FROM 2025

**CONTROVERSIES**

0

0 FROM 2026

## Overview

Clark University ranks 69 out of 261 schools in the 2027 College Free Speech Rankings with a score of 65 and a D speech climate grade, rising 125 places.

Clark ranks first for "Self-Censorship," showing less hesitancy to speak, and in the top 25 for "Openness," meaning fewer contentious topics feel off-limits to students. It lands in the bottom 25 for "Political Tolerance," showing reduced student willingness to host controversial speakers, and in the bottom 50 for "Administrative Support," signaling poor trust in officials.

Clark earns a "yellow light" Spotlight rating and has adopted the pro-free speech Chicago Statement and institutional neutrality. It should revise student policies to earn a "green light" Spotlight rating. Given its weak performance on "Administrative Support," administrators should respond clearly and forcefully to defend free speech whenever censorship occurs or is demanded.

**Spotlight Rating**

Yellow

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

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.

## HIGHLIGHTS




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




78% 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.

39 : 1

There are roughly 39 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
▼ DECREASE

**OPENNESS**
B–
▲ INCREASE

**SELF-CENSORSHIP**
C–
▲ INCREASE

**ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT**
F
▲ INCREASE

**POLITICAL TOLERANCE**
F
▼ DECREASE

**SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE**
0

**STUDENTS UNDER FIRE**
0

**DEPLATFORMINGS**
0