

University of New Hampshire

Durham, NH • 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

44 ▼

/261

▼ -6 FROM 2025

GRADE

D+

D+ FROM 2025

CONTROVERSIES

0

0 FROM 2026

Overview

The University of New Hampshire ranks 44 out of 261 schools in the 2027 College Free Speech Rankings with a score of 67 and a D+ speech climate grade.

UNH lands in the bottom 50 for “Comfort Expressing Ideas,” indicating students feel constrained sharing views on controversial topics. It also tumbled 140 places from last year into the bottom 50 for “Political Tolerance,” showing reduced student willingness to host controversial speakers. The data shows no top 50 strengths.

The campus maintains a “green light” Spotlight rating. UNH should adopt the pro-free speech Chicago Statement and an official commitment to institutional neutrality. It should 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](#)

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

Green



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

HIGHLIGHTS



39% of students say they have self-censored on campus at least once or twice a month.



68% of students say shouting down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.



29% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

1.79 : 1

There are roughly 1.79 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

B-

▲ INCREASE

OPENNESS

D+

— NO CHANGE

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D-

— NO CHANGE

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

F

▲ INCREASE

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▼ DECREASE

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

0

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

0

DEPLATFORMINGS

0