

New York University

New York, NY • 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

261 ▼

/261

▼ -11 FROM 2025

GRADE

F

F FROM 2025

CONTROVERSIES

6

2 FROM 2026

Overview

New York University ranks last in the 2027 College Free Speech Rankings with a score of 45 and an F speech climate grade. Its score fell 11 points following six speech controversies.

NYU lands in the bottom 25 for “Administrative Support,” showing little student trust in officials to defend speech. It ranks in the bottom 50 for “Disruptive Conduct” and “Comfort Expressing Ideas,” signaling student acceptance of non-peaceful forms of protest and discomfort when sharing views. However, its “Self-Censorship” rank jumped 122 places from last year, indicating less hesitation to speak.

NYU earns a “yellow light” Spotlight rating. It should revise student policies to earn a “green light” Spotlight rating and adopt the pro-free speech Chicago Statement and a commitment to institutional neutrality. NYU should clearly and forcefully 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

Yellow



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

HIGHLIGHTS



55% 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.



32% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

4.17 : 1

There are roughly 4.17 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

▲ INCREASE

OPENNESS

C

▲ INCREASE

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D

▲ INCREASE

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

F

▼ DECREASE

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

— NO CHANGE

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

0

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

1

DEPLATFORMINGS

5