

Wright State University

Dayton, OH • 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

64 ▼

/261

▼ -15 FROM 2025

GRADE

D

D FROM 2025

CONTROVERSIES

0

0 FROM 2026

Overview

Wright State University ranks 64 out of 261 schools in the 2027 College Free Speech Rankings with a score of 65 and a D speech climate grade.

Wright State ranks in the top 25 for “Administrative Support,” showing students trust officials to defend speech. It ranks in the top 50 for “Disruptive Conduct,” indicating lower student acceptance of non-peaceful forms of protest. However, it lands in the bottom 50 for “Openness,” meaning many contentious topics feel off-limits to students.

Wright State’s board has affirmed the pro-free speech Chicago Statement, but the university holds a “yellow light” Spotlight rating. The school should revise student policies to earn a “green light” Spotlight rating and adopt an official commitment to institutional neutrality. Wright State should respond clearly and forcefully in defense of free expression 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



43% of students say they have self-censored on campus at least once or twice a month.



59% of students say shouting down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.



22% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

2.35 : 1

There are roughly 2.35 liberal students for every one conservative student.

Institutional Neutrality

NOT ADOPTED



Chicago Statement for Free Speech

ADOPTED



SCORE DEEP DIVE

COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS

D+

▲ INCREASE

DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

B-

▲ INCREASE

OPENNESS

D+

▼ DECREASE

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D

▲ INCREASE

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

D

▲ INCREASE

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▼ DECREASE

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

O

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

O

DEPLATFORMINGS

O