Marquette University

Milwaukee, WI • 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

231 /261

▼ -1 FROM 2025

GRADE

F

F FROM 2025

CONTROVERSIES

0

0 FROM 2026

Overview

Marquette University ranks 231 out of 261 schools in the 2027 College Free Speech Rankings with a score of 54 and an F speech climate grade.

Marquette tumbled 105 places from last year into the bottom 50 for "Political Tolerance," showing reduced student willingness to host controversial speakers. Its "Comfort Expressing Ideas" rank jumped 104 places from last year, indicating greater student comfort with sharing views on controversial topics. The data shows no top 50 strengths.

Marquette earns a "red light" Spotlight rating. It should revise student policies to earn a "green light" Spotlight rating, adopt the pro-free speech Chicago Statement, and adopt an official commitment to institutional neutrality. It should respond clearly and forcefully whenever censorship occurs or is demanded. Doing so will demonstrate the university's commitment to free speech and build trust that the administration will defend expressive rights.

View the Full Spotlight Rating

Spotlight Rating

Red



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

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



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



71% 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.

2.02 : 1

There are roughly 2.02 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

D+

▼ DECREASE

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D

▲ INCREASE

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

D–

▲ INCREASE

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▼ DECREASE

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

0

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

0

DEPLATFORMINGS

0