University of Wyoming

Laramie, WY • Public 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
37 ▲
/261
▲ 4 FROM 2025

GRADE
D+
▲ D FROM 2025

CONTROVERSIES
0
0 FROM 2026

Overview

The University of Wyoming ranks 37 out of 261 schools in the 2027 College Free Speech Rankings with a score of 69 and a D+ speech climate grade.

UW ranks first nationally for "Disruptive Conduct," showing minimal student acceptance of non-peaceful forms of protest. It ranks in the top 25 for "Political Tolerance," indicating comparatively greater student willingness to host speakers across the ideological spectrum. However, it lands in the bottom 25 for "Openness," meaning many contentious topics feel off-limits to students.

UW has adopted the pro-free speech Chicago Statement and an official commitment to institutional neutrality but retains a "yellow light" Spotlight rating. It should revise its student policies to earn a "green light" Spotlight rating. UW 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



41% of students say they have self-censored on campus at least once or twice a month.



49% of students say shouting down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.



13% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

1.74 : 1

There are roughly 1.74 conservative students for every one liberal student.

Institutional Neutrality

ADOPTED



Chicago Statement for Free Speech

ADOPTED



SCORE DEEP DIVE

COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS
D+
▲ INCREASE

DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT
B+
▲ INCREASE

OPENNESS
D
▲ INCREASE

SELF-CENSORSHIP
D
▲ INCREASE

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT
D
▲ INCREASE

POLITICAL TOLERANCE
F
▼ DECREASE

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE
0

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE
0

DEPLATFORMINGS
0