



Indiana

4 schools ranked



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.

AVERAGE RANK

128 ▼

/257

▼ 9 FROM 2024

AVERAGE GRADE

D -

▼ DECREASED

SPEECH CONTROVERSIES

6

— 2 FROM 2025

Overview

Four Indiana schools are ranked in the 2026 College Free Speech Rankings. The state's average speech-climate grade is D-, compared to a national average of F.

Purdue University is not only the top-ranked school in Indiana but is the second best-ranked school in the country. Purdue has adopted both the pro-free speech Chicago Statement and a statement on institutional neutrality. It holds a "green light" rating in FIRE's Spotlight database, meaning its written policies do not seriously threaten student expression.

DePauw University follows at 18 and has also adopted the Chicago Statement. It holds a "green light" rating but has not adopted institutional neutrality. Indiana University Bloomington ranks 255 and the University of Notre Dame ranks 238. Both earn F grades and have not adopted either statement. Notre Dame holds a "red light" rating, and IU Bloomington holds a "yellow light" rating.

Indiana is home to some of the nation's strongest and weakest campus speech environments. Raising the floor through policy reform and broader commitment to expressive rights would help close the state's gap.

If you have questions, reach out to fire@thefire.org or visit us at <https://rankings.thefire.org/>.



HIGHLIGHTS



46% 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.



31% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

1.74:1

Across Indiana, there are roughly 1.74 liberal students for every one conservative student.

SCORE DEEP DIVE

COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS

D

▲ INCREASED

DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

C+

— NO CHANGE

OPENNESS

D+

▼ DECREASED

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D-

▼ DECREASED

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

F

▲ INCREASED

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▼ DECREASED

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

0

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

1

DEPLATFORMINGS

5

HONOR ROLL STATEMENTS

0

ATTEMPTED DISRUPTIONS

1

NEW IN 2025

2