

Delaware

1 school 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

177 ▼

/261

▼ -21 FROM 2025

AVERAGE GRADE

F

— NO CHANGE

SPEECH CONTROVERSIES

0

— 0 IN 2026

Overview

One Delaware school is ranked in the 2027 College Free Speech Rankings. The University of Delaware ranks 177 overall and earns an F speech climate grade, below the national average of D-.

UD ranks in the bottom 50 for "Political Tolerance," suggesting students are less open to hearing from controversial speakers. It holds a "yellow light" rating in FIRE's Spotlight database. The school has not adopted the pro-free speech Chicago Statement or a statement on institutional neutrality.

Adopting the Chicago Statement, committing to institutional neutrality, and reforming restrictive student policies would help improve the school's speech climate.

If you have questions, reach out to fire@fire.org or visit us at rankings.fire.org/.

HIGHLIGHTS



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



68% 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.

2.33:1

Across Delaware, there are roughly 2.33 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

▲ INCREASED

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

F

— NO CHANGE

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▼ DECREASED

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

0

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

0

DEPLATFORMINGS

0

HONOR ROLL STATEMENTS

0

ATTEMPTED DISRUPTIONS

0

NEW IN 2026

0