



# Kansas

2 schools ranked



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

73 ▲  
/261

▲ 28 FROM 2025

#### AVERAGE GRADE

D

— NO CHANGE

#### SPEECH CONTROVERSIES

0

— 0 IN 2026

## Overview

Two Kansas schools are ranked in the 2027 College Free Speech Rankings. The state's average speech climate grade is D, compared to the national average of D-.

Kansas State University ranks 35 overall and is the state's top-ranked school. It holds a "green light" rating in FIRE's Spotlight database. KSU ranks in the bottom 50 for "Self-Censorship" and "Openness," suggesting students struggle to speak openly.

The University of Kansas follows at rank 111. It holds a "yellow light" rating and falls in the bottom 50 for "Comfort Expressing Ideas," pointing to widespread student hesitation to speak out. The Kansas Board of Regents has affirmed the pro-free speech Chicago Statement, applying to both campuses. Neither school has adopted a statement on institutional neutrality. Revising restrictive student policies at KU and adopting institutional neutrality would help improve these schools' speech climates.

If you have questions, reach out to [fire@fire.org](mailto:fire@fire.org) or visit us at [rankings.fire.org/](https://rankings.fire.org/).

## HIGHLIGHTS



44% of students say they have self-censored on campus at least once or twice a month.



65% of students say shouting down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.



30% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

1.12:1

Across Kansas, there are roughly 1.12 liberal students for every one conservative student.

## SCORE DEEP DIVE

### COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS

D

— NO CHANGE

### DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

C+

▲ INCREASED

### OPENNESS

D

▼ DECREASED

### SELF-CENSORSHIP

D-

— NO CHANGE

### ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

F

▼ DECREASED

### POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▲ INCREASED

### SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

0

### STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

0

### DEPLATFORMINGS

0

### HONOR ROLL STATEMENTS

0

### ATTEMPTED DISRUPTIONS

0

### NEW IN 2026

0