



Ohio

13 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

123 ▼
/261

▼ -8 FROM 2025

AVERAGE GRADE

D -

— NO CHANGE

SPEECH CONTROVERSIES

3

— 1 IN 2026

Overview

Thirteen Ohio schools are ranked in the 2027 College Free Speech Rankings. The state's average speech climate grade is D-, matching the national average.

Wright State University ranks 64 overall and is the state's top-ranked school. WSU holds a "yellow light" Spotlight rating and ranks in the top 25 for "Administrative Support," suggesting students trust administrators to defend speech. The school has adopted the pro-free speech Chicago Statement.

The University of Dayton ranks lowest at 237 and maintains a "red light" rating. Most Ohio campuses hold yellow light ratings. Ten of the schools have adopted the Chicago Statement, but only The Ohio State University has adopted a statement on institutional neutrality. Revising restrictive written student policies and adopting institutional neutrality would help improve these schools' speech climates.

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



HIGHLIGHTS



40% of students say they have self-censored on campus at least once or twice a month.



66% 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.

2.14:1

Across Ohio, there are roughly 2.14 liberal students for every one conservative student.

SCORE DEEP DIVE

COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS

D

▲ INCREASED

DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

C+

▲ INCREASED

OPENNESS

C-

— NO CHANGE

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D

▲ INCREASED

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

F

▲ INCREASED

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▼ DECREASED

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

0

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

1

DEPLATFORMINGS

2

HONOR ROLL STATEMENTS

0

ATTEMPTED DISRUPTIONS

1

NEW IN 2026

1