

# University of Minnesota

Minneapolis, MN • Public School



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

146 ▲

/257

▲ -44 FROM 2024

## GRADE

F

— F FROM 2024

## SPEECH CONTROVERSIES

1

0 FROM 2025

## Overview

University of Minnesota Twin Cities ranks 146 out of 257 schools in the 2026 College Free Speech Rankings with a score of 57, an F speech climate grade. The school still earns a “yellow light” Spotlight rating and has adopted the Chicago Statement.

Student feedback paints a challenging picture. Student perceptions place UMN in the bottom 25 nationwide on “Disruptive Conduct” for the second year in a row. No survey area lands in the top 50, leaving the university without a clear area of strength.

UMN could begin improving by revising its speech policies to secure a “green light” Spotlight rating and by adopting an official commitment to institutional neutrality.

### Spotlight Rating

Yellow



FIRE’s Spotlight database annually rates regulations on student expression based on the extent to which they restrict free speech.

If you are a school administrator and would like to discuss your rating, reach out to [speechcodes@thefire.org](mailto:speechcodes@thefire.org).

Visit our website: <https://rankings.thefire.org/> for more information.

## HIGHLIGHTS



43% of students say they have self-censored on campus at least once or twice a month.



78% of students say shouting down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.



41% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

3.03:1

There are roughly 3.03 liberal students for every one conservative student.

### Institutional Neutrality

NOT ADOPTED



### Chicago Statement for Free Speech

ADOPTED



## SCORE DEEP DIVE

### COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS

D-

▼ DECREASE

### DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

C

▲ INCREASE

### OPENNESS

C-

▲ INCREASE

### SELF-CENSORSHIP

D-

▲ INCREASE

### ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

F

▲ INCREASE

### POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▼ DECREASE

### SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

0

### STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

0

### DEPLATFORMINGS

1