

University of New Hampshire

Durham, NH • 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

38 ▼
/257

▼ 21 FROM 2024

GRADE

D

▼ D+ FROM 2024

SPEECH CONTROVERSIES

0

— 0 FROM 2025

Overview

University of New Hampshire ranks 38 out of 257 schools in the 2026 College Free Speech Rankings. UNH earned a score of 66, giving it a D speech climate grade, while earning a “green light” Spotlight rating for its written student policies.

Policy strength aside, student sentiment paints a less favorable picture. UNH places in the bottom 25 nationwide for “Comfort Expressing Ideas,” suggesting many hesitate to voice controversial opinions.

UNH could strengthen its speech climate by formally adopting the Chicago Statement and an official commitment to institutional neutrality, as well as pairing those commitments with programming that normalizes respectful disagreement.

Spotlight Rating

Green



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.

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

HIGHLIGHTS



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



70% of students say shouting down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.



40% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

1.04:1

There are roughly 1.04 conservative students for every one liberal student.

Institutional Neutrality

NOT ADOPTED



Chicago Statement for Free Speech

NOT ADOPTED



SCORE DEEP DIVE

COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS

D-

▼ DECREASE

DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

C+

▲ INCREASE

OPENNESS

D+

▼ DECREASE

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D-

▼ DECREASE

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

F

▲ INCREASE

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▼ DECREASE

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

O

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

O

DEPLATFORMINGS

O