University of Dayton

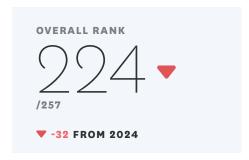


The most comprehensive guide to free speech on campus — anywhere

Because a true university education requires freedom of expression.

Dayton, OH • Private School

The College Free Speech Rankings are based on student surveys, campus policies, and recent speech-related controversies.





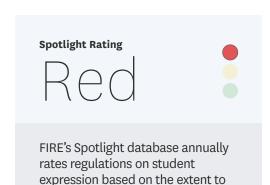


Overview

The University of Dayton ranks 224 out of 257 schools in the 2026 College Free Speech Rankings with a score of 52, an F speech climate grade.

Student perceptions place Dayton in the top 50 on "Disruptive Conduct." Yet serious problems remain: the university earns a "red light" Spotlight rating. Absent improvements to its written policies, the overall climate continues to lag.

Dayton could make headway by revising its speech codes to earn a "green light" Spotlight rating and by formally adopting the Chicago Statement and an official commitment to institutional neutrality.



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.





46% of students say they have self-censored on campus at least once or twice a month.



62% 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.

1.91:1

There are roughly 1.91 conservative students for every one liberal student.

Institutional Neutrality

NOT ADOPTED



Chicago Statement for Free Speech

NOT ADOPTED



SCORE DEEP DIVE

COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS



▼ DECREASE

DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT



▲ INCREASE

OPENNESS



▲ INCREASE

SELF-CENSORSHIP



▲ INCREASE

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT



DECREASE

POLITICAL TOLERANCE



DECREASE

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE



STUDENTS UNDER FIRE



DEPLATFORMINGS



