

Haverford College

Haverford, PA • Private 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

212 ▲
/257

▲ -22 FROM 2024

GRADE

F

— F FROM 2024

SPEECH CONTROVERSIES

0

— 0 FROM 2025

Overview

Haverford College ranks 212 out of 257 schools in the 2026 College Free Speech Rankings, earning a score of 53 and an F speech climate grade. The school still earns a “red light” Spotlight rating for restrictive speech policies and has not adopted the Chicago Statement or an official commitment to institutional neutrality.

Haverford places in the top 25 for both “Self-Censorship” and “Openness,” signaling that comparatively more students feel personally comfortable sharing ideas and engaging in difficult conversations. That strength is tempered by a bottom-50 ranking for “Political Tolerance,” suggesting reluctance to host speakers whose political views diverge sharply from campus norms. The combination points to a community that encourages individual expression yet remains wary of ideological diversity.

Haverford could improve by revising its speech codes to earn a “green light” Spotlight rating, as well as adopting the Chicago Statement and an official commitment to institutional neutrality.

Spotlight Rating

Red



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



41% of students say they have self-censored on campus at least once or twice a month.



82% of students say shouting down a speaker to prevent them from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.



22% of students say using violence to stop someone from speaking on campus is acceptable, at least in rare cases.

9.02:1

There are roughly 9.02 liberal students for every one conservative student.

Institutional Neutrality

NOT ADOPTED



Chicago Statement for Free Speech

NOT ADOPTED



SCORE DEEP DIVE

COMFORT EXPRESSING IDEAS

D

▲ INCREASE

DISRUPTIVE CONDUCT

C+

▼ DECREASE

OPENNESS

B-

▲ INCREASE

SELF-CENSORSHIP

D

▲ INCREASE

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

F

▲ INCREASE

POLITICAL TOLERANCE

F

▲ INCREASE

SCHOLARS UNDER FIRE

O

STUDENTS UNDER FIRE

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DEPLATFORMINGS

O