
Purdue University's commitment to protecting free speech and expression

Purdue University has been ranked as the No. 3 college for free speech in the U.S.

- This ranking comes from FIRE (Foundation for Individual Rights in Education) in 2022.
- Purdue has consistently ranked high on this list.
- The ranking compares the student experiences of over 44,000 students across 208 colleges and universities.
- The ranking is based on 10 components: openness, tolerance for liberal speakers on campus, tolerance for conservative speakers on campus, disruptive conduct, administrative support for free speech, comfort expressing ideas, scholars supported during a free-speech controversy (2019-22), scholars sanctioned over a free-speech controversy (2019-22), successful controversial speaker disinvitations (2019-22) and FIRE Speech Code Rating, which evaluates universities' written policies governing student speech.

Facts about this ranking and the methodologies used can be found at rankings.thefire.org.

- For more information on Purdue's ranking, visit bit.ly/FIREPurdueData.
- To see how Purdue compares with other universities on this ranking, visit rankings.thefire.org/rank.

Purdue was the 21st institution in FIRE's spotlight database of universities to reach "green light" status.

- "Green" ratings indicate more open environments for free speech.
- Purdue has maintained a green light status for seven years running.

In 2015, Purdue was the first public university in the U.S. to adopt the Chicago Principles, a landmark declaration of the importance of free speech in any university community.

- The Chicago Principles are a set of guiding principles intended to demonstrate a commitment to freedom of speech and freedom of expression on college campuses in the United States.
- To learn more about Purdue's commitment to freedom of expression, visit purdue.university/FreeExpression.

In 2014, Purdue worked with FIRE to eliminate its speech codes to more fully support Boilermakers' First Amendment rights to free expression.

- To learn more about these efforts, visit bit.ly/FIREPurdueGreenLight.

In 2016, Purdue began including a dedicated module on freedom of expression in Boiler Gold Rush, Purdue's welcome week orientation program for new undergraduate students.

In 2019, a panel of experts on campus speech named Purdue as a positive role model in the areas of free speech, viewpoint diversity and open inquiry (RealClearEducation, 2019).

Purdue is committed to ensuring that all members of the University community have the opportunity to speak, write, listen, challenge and learn.

Purdue upholds that it is not the university's proper role to attempt to shield individuals from ideas and opinions they find unwelcome, disagreeable or even deeply offensive.

Purdue considers the ability of members of the University community to responsibly engage in debate and deliberation an essential part of the University's educational mission.