



**FIRE**

Foundation for Individual  
Rights in Education

REVISE YOUR SCHOOL'S  
**SPEECH  
CODES**



SEND US AN EMAIL  
[speechcodes@thefire.org](mailto:speechcodes@thefire.org)

FIRE is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that defends civil liberties on college campuses. Working with FIRE to improve policies that restrict speech is a collaborative process to drive change on campus — **and it's free of charge.**

# OUR POLICY RESOURCES

## DANIEL ZAHN

Student, Penn State; former FIRE summer intern

“Working with staff members at FIRE allowed me to use their knowledge, my connections, and our shared passions to make concrete changes to my college's speech policies in an effective manner. The support from FIRE enabled me to make a persuasive pitch with an actionable change that became policy.”

## ANDREW J. TAYLOR

Professor of Political Science, NC State

“FIRE's staff helped us identify offending rules and we went about securing their amendment or removal. FIRE's credibility is such these days that high-level administrators listened intently to our argument and responded cooperatively.”

## DR. DANNY PUGH

VP for Student Affairs, Texas A&M

“The policy professionals at FIRE were instrumental in Texas A&M's efforts to clearly articulate our commitment to the First Amendment and to earn a green light rating. I could not have asked for better partners in this collaboration.”



## TIMELY REVIEWS

We will walk you through our analysis of your institution's policies and how they can be improved to comply with the First Amendment and free speech principles.

Our work helps your institution remain consistent with court rulings in your federal circuit and avoid costly First Amendment lawsuits.



## SPOTLIGHT DATABASE

FIRE's Spotlight database includes comprehensive information about the speech codes maintained by over 450 colleges and universities.

You can check your college's policies on Spotlight before engaging in campus activism or policy revisions at [thefire.org/resources/spotlight](https://thefire.org/resources/spotlight).



## ADOPT A FREE SPEECH POLICY

FIRE works with campus stakeholders toward adopting a free speech policy statement modeled after the “Chicago Statement.”

The Chicago Statement is the gold standard for campus free speech statements, and an eloquent encapsulation of the principles of freedom of expression.

Endorsing this statement allows your school to proactively commit to free speech and academic freedom before a campus controversy hits.



## OUR PUBLICATIONS

FIRE offers a variety of publications, such as our Correcting Common Mistakes in Campus Speech Policies handbook and our annual Spotlight on Speech Codes report.

These publications provide more in-depth features about campus speech codes.

You can find these and more publications on our website, [thefire.org/research/publications](https://thefire.org/research/publications).

## FIRE'S MISSION


is to defend and sustain the individual rights of students and faculty members at America's colleges and universities. These rights include freedom of speech, freedom of association, due process, legal equality, religious liberty, and sanctity of conscience — the essential qualities of liberty. FIRE educates students, faculty, alumni, trustees, and the public about the threats to these rights on our campuses, and provides the means to preserve them.

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