

Youth Gambling Prevention

Underage Gambling Facts:

- 39.5% of NYS youth between the ages of 12 and 17 have gambled in the past year.
- Nearly 30% of these youth state they began gambling at age 10 or younger.
- Past 30 day use of alcohol, being drunk, use of marijuana, and drinking energy drinks is higher among youth who are GAMBLING

Warning Signs of Underage Gambling:

- Increased risk for DELINQUENCY & CRIME
- Increased risk for SUBSTANCE USE & ABUSE
- Increased risk for ADDICTION
- DAMAGED RELATIONSHIPS
- Poor academic performance
- Mental health issues including DEPRESSION & ANXIETY
- Overall, POOR GENERAL HEALTH

Additional Resources:

[Youth Decide NY](#)

[OASAS- Problem Gambling Awareness Month](#)

[NY Council on Problem Gambling](#)

[Talk to Kids](#)

Youth Problem Gambling Warning Signs:

- Change in personality or behavior
- Less involvement with usual activities
- Withdrawal from family or friends
- Unexplained absences from classes or school
- Dropping grades
- Unexplained debts, cash and/or new items
- Borrowing or stealing money
- Unusual amounts of time on the computer
- Unusual interest in teams and athletes
- Exaggerated display of money
- Bragging about gambling activities

(From NYCPG)

What Can You Do?

- Examine School Policy
- Increase awareness among students and parents
- Know the warning signs of problem gambling

Gambling Policies in Schools:

Create environments that protect youth by establishing the rules and regulations students and faculty must follow. Include the following in policy:

- Definition of “gambling.”
- Outline rules of where and when the policy is in effect.
- List consequences and how they’ll be enforced.