



North Carolina Problem Gambling Program
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College and University Grant Information

What You Need to Know

- Gambling is legal in every state except Utah and Hawaii and has become a billion industry.
- Ninety-three percent of youth have access to the internet and 700,000 young adults gamble online monthly.
- Youth with gambling problems are more likely to use tobacco, drink heavily and use drugs.
- Approximately six percent of college students in the United States have a serious gambling problem.
- Youth rates of being at-risk for problem gambling are two to three times higher than adult rates.
- Athletes are at a high risk for sports gambling because of their competitive personalities.
- Gambling addiction has the highest suicide rate of all addictions.
- Nearly all United States colleges and universities have policies on student alcohol use; however, only 22 percent have a formal policy on gambling.

Defining Problem Gambling

Problem gambling, or gambling disorder, includes all gambling behavior patterns that compromise, disrupt or damage personal, family or vocational pursuits. The essential features are increasing preoccupation with gambling, a need to bet more money more frequently, restlessness or irritability when attempting to stop, “chasing” losses and loss of control. In extreme cases, problem gambling can result in financial ruin, legal problems, loss of career and family or even suicide.

The NC Problem Gambling Program

The North Carolina Problem Gambling Program (NCPGP) was established to provide and support effective problem gambling prevention, education, outreach and treatment programs throughout the state.

The College and University Grant Program

The NCPGP offers grants up to \$5,000 to colleges and universities to promote problem gambling education and outreach to students, faculty and staff. The program focuses on outreach and education, screening and gambling policy implementation. Grantees provide information about the NCPGP and problem gambling to students, faculty and staff. The problem can include the following: distribute promotional items with NCPGP Helpline, create an educational event or presentation, create curriculum for courses, participate in Problem Gambling Awareness Month or integrate problem gambling into a health and wellness coalition. Grantees also utilize screening questions in health centers and counseling departments, send students, faculty and staff to Sure Bet workshops and participate in the National Gambling Disorder Screening Day.

The College and University Grant Program

The NCPGP provides a workshop series called Sure Bet across the state of North Carolina several times per year. The registration fee and room and board can be included in the grant budget to be reimbursed at the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services state rate.

Contact Alison Drain at alison.drain@dhhs.nc.gov or 919-800-8482 for more information.

