

Project ALERT at a Glance

A skills-based curriculum that teaches teens how to say “NO.”

Each day, America’s teenagers are bombarded with misleading messages about drugs. Glamorized by media and endorsed by peers, the consequences of drug use and experimentation are dangerously disguised, and often hidden altogether.

The reality is that drug use can alter a teen’s life forever. That’s why every student should be given the tools to make a decision against using drugs - and the best place to give them those tools is your classroom.

Easy to adopt. Proven to work.

Project ALERT is a free classroom-based substance abuse prevention program for 7th and 8th graders that’s proven to reduce the experimental and continued use of drugs.

Through a series of comprehensive lessons, Project ALERT motivates students against drug use, cultivates new non-use attitudes and beliefs, and equips teens with the skills and strategies they’ll use to resist drugs.

Project ALERT is proven to:

- Motivate students against drug use
- Provide skills and strategies to resist drugs
- Establish new non-use attitudes and beliefs

Easy to Adopt

Bringing Project ALERT to your classroom is easy with self-paced online training, web-based and downloadable lesson plans, including supporting videos and posters. What Project ALERT includes:

- Fourteen eReader lesson plans
- Eight online interactive student videos
- Twelve projectable classroom posters
- Online teacher training
- A certificate of training completion
- Toll-free phone support and online technical assistance
- An electronic newsletter

Proven to Work

The Project ALERT curriculum was developed and field tested over a ten-year period by RAND, the nation's leading think tank on drug policy. RAND research demonstrates that teens have a mindset about drugs. By shifting the pro-drug mindset, students of Project ALERT administrators have benefited from these measurable results:

- 40% drop in students already experimenting with cigarettes in becoming regular smokers
- 24% lower alcohol misuse score
- 20% reduction of highest-risk early drinkers
- 20 to 25% decrease in cigarette use during the past month
- 33 to 55% decrease in regular and heavy usage of cigarettes
- 60% decrease in current marijuana use

Project ALERT is also proud to be the recipient of near-perfect scores on the US government's own review process, the NREPP (National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices).

These scores and results confirm that Project ALERT is grounded in solid science and easy to effectively implement in the classroom. But most importantly, they show that your ability to help students make the right decisions about drugs isn't just possible, it's proven.

To see how Project ALERT stacked up against other substance abuse programs, view our results at www.nrepp.samhsa.gov/viewIntervention.aspx?id=62.

Curriculum & Training

You don't have to be a prevention expert to teach Project ALERT, and the training program fits flexibly into your own schedule with short, self-paced lessons and readily available support from the Project ALERT team. The Project ALERT curriculum has been successfully administered by:

- SAP Advisors
- Science, Health and PE Teachers
- Core Teachers
- Counselors
- Nurses
- Community Liaisons
- School Resource Officers

The Project ALERT two-year core curriculum consists of 11 lessons that are most effective when taught once a week during the first year, plus three booster lessons that should be delivered the following year. Project ALERT complements other curricula and can be implemented in conjunction with lessons from sex education, health, physical education, science and social studies.