

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey, Inc. (Council) is a private non-profit 501(c)3 organization composed of concerned individuals from diverse backgrounds. The group's primary purpose is to represent the best interest of compulsive gamblers and their families, recognizing that compulsive gambling is a treatable illness.

The Council focuses on educating the general public, training professionals throughout the state, referring compulsive gamblers and their families to treatment, and advocating for increased treatment services for compulsive gamblers and their families.

## How to Find Help for a Problem Gambler:

Call for help 24 hours per day,  
7 days per week –  
800-GAMBLER and speak  
with a gambling helpline staff member  
(All calls are confidential)



Send text to "1-800-GAMBLER"



Visit [www.800gambler.org](http://www.800gambler.org) for information,  
resources, or live chat



Attend a Gamblers Anonymous (GA)  
or Gam-Anon meeting in your area;  
meeting locations, times, and dates can be  
found by calling 800-GAMBLER  
or by visiting our  
website at [www.800gambler.org](http://www.800gambler.org)

# Council on Compulsive Gambling of NJ, Inc.

**SUPPORT. TREATMENT. HOPE.**

## Adolescent & Teen Gambling





## WHY DOES AN ADOLESCENT OR TEEN GAMBLE?

- Relaxation or adventure
- A family member gambles
- Excitement
- To escape negative feelings
- Opportunity
- Socialization

## WHAT ARE SOME COMMON CHARACTERISTICS?

- Youth are tech savvy
- A desire for immediate gratification
- Do not fully understand risks
- Still developing control of emotions and impulses
- Typically enjoy playing games

## QUICK FACTS:

- Approximately 4-5% of youth, ages 12-17 meet one or more criteria for having a gambling problem
- Another 10-14% of youth are considered 'at-risk' for developing an addiction
- DFS and eSports are on the rise!
- In New Jersey over the past 10 years, 12-22% of middle school students report having gambled at least one time in the prior 12 months
- Youths who gamble are more likely to use alcohol or drugs, smoke, and experience depression (MCCG – 2015)

## MOST COMMON GAMBLING ACTIVITIES AMONG YOUTH:

- Lottery tickets / Scratch-offs
- Poker
- Sports gambling
- Dice
- Skill-based games
- Routine daily events



## WARNING SIGNS:

- Preoccupation
- Borrowing money
- Selling personal items
- Gambling language used frequently
- Unexplained absences from school
- Neglecting household chores
- Declining grades
- Alienation from family and friends
- Inability to cut back or stop gambling
- Lying to friends and family about gambling
- Large amounts of money on hand and showing off
- Bragging about winnings
- Suspected of alcohol or drug use
- Suicidal thoughts

## Contact Us:

**Council on Compulsive Gambling NJ**  
3635 Quakerbridge Rd., Suite 7  
Hamilton, NJ 08619

**Call or Text 1-800-GAMBLER**

**Visit us on the Web: [www.800gambler.org](http://www.800gambler.org)**  
**SUPPORT. TREATMENT. HOPE.**