

## Factors Influencing Potential for Substance Abuse

Domain	Risk Factors	Protective Factors
<b>Child Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poor conflict management skills</li> <li>• Poor social skills</li> <li>• Impulsivity</li> <li>• Favorable attitudes toward substance use</li> <li>• Early initiation of oppositional behavior</li> <li>• Low school readiness</li> <li>• Language delays and learning disabilities</li> <li>• Attention deficit disorder</li> <li>• Difficult temperament, easily frustrated, difficulty in self-soothing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social competence (responsiveness, cultural flexibility, empathy, caring, communication skills, and a sense of humor)</li> <li>• Autonomy (sense of identity, self-efficacy, self-awareness, task-mastery, and adaptive distancing from negative messages and conditions)</li> <li>• Sense of purpose and belief in a bright future (goal direction, educational aspirations, optimism, faith, and spiritual connectedness)</li> <li>• Problem-solving (planning, teamwork, and critical and creative thinking)</li> </ul>
<b>School and Peer Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ineffective teacher responses</li> <li>• Use of substances among peers</li> <li>• Classroom aggression</li> <li>• Peer rejection</li> <li>• Academic failure beginning in late elementary school</li> <li>• Truancy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear classroom management</li> <li>• Norm of positive behavior among peers</li> <li>• Positive social opportunities</li> <li>• Social bonding</li> <li>• Social skills competency</li> <li>• Academic achievement</li> <li>• Regular school attendance</li> </ul>
<b>Parenting Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harsh and ineffective parenting skills</li> <li>• Favorable parental attitudes towards substance use and own use</li> <li>• Poor monitoring</li> <li>• Poor parent and child attachment</li> <li>• Low cognitive stimulation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistency in rule enforcement</li> <li>• Reinforcement of positive social involvement</li> <li>• Careful and appropriate parental monitoring</li> <li>• Strong parental bonding</li> </ul>
<b>Contextual and Family Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marital discord</li> <li>• Family management problems (e.g., creating and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supportive family bonding</li> <li>• Reinforcement for positive social involvement</li> </ul>

	<p>following family rules and rituals)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family conflict/abuse</li> <li>• Parent criminal activity</li> <li>• Parent substance abuse/history of substance use</li> <li>• Older children who are using substances</li> <li>• Life stressors</li> <li>• Parent mental illness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positive family dynamics</li> <li>• No tobacco and other substance use/abuse in family</li> <li>• Extended family networks</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Community Factors</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low neighborhood attachment and community disorganization</li> <li>• Community norms (favorable toward drug use)</li> <li>• Transitional communities (e.g., frequent changes in neighborhood members resulting in low cohesion)</li> <li>• Availability of drugs</li> <li>• Extreme economic deprivation</li> <li>• Poverty</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community connection and supports</li> <li>• Healthy beliefs and clear standards</li> <li>• Community-supported substance abuse prevention efforts and programs</li> <li>• Availability of constructive recreation</li> <li>• Careful and appropriate monitoring of youth's activities</li> </ul>

Adapted from the [Partners for Substance Abuse Prevention](#) Website.