

APPENDIX 18

Appendix 18
RISK AND PROTECTIVE FACTORS
UNDER TITLE IV, PART A- SDFSC

**Risk and Protective Factors
Included in the Principles
of Effectiveness**

Programs that are funded from Title IV, Part A—SDFSC shall meet the principles of effectiveness. The fifth principle of effectiveness states that a SDFSC program shall be based on an analysis of the prevalence of:

- Risk factors, including high or increasing rates of reported cases of child abuse and domestic violence;
- Protective factors, buffers, assets; or
- Other scientifically based research that occur in schools and communities.

Risk Factors

Risk factors are attitudes, behaviors, beliefs, situations, or actions that may put a group, organization, individual, or community at risk for drug use and violent behavior.

Protective Factors

Protective factors are attitudes, behaviors, beliefs, situations, or actions that build resilience in a group, organization, individual, or community that may prevent drug use and violent behavior.

Developmental Assets

The Search Institute has identified 40 building blocks that youth need to be healthy, caring, principled, and productive people. They are divided into two groups. “External” assets are the relationships and opportunities that are provided to young people. “Internal” assets are the values and skills that young people develop to guide themselves. This Developmental Assets approach is a framework that is oriented to using a variety of strategies to build assets for young people.

**Why should I place my
SDFSC programs,
activities, and strategies in
a framework of risk and
protective factors?**

Research has shown that certain risk factors can be identified as predictors of health and behavior problems in youth. The more risk factors a student possesses, the more likely that student is to exhibit violent behavior, use drugs, experience teen pregnancy, and drop out of school. Programs, activities, and strategies that enhance protective factors can be a vehicle towards reversing or reducing risk factors.