



Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) Program

FACT SHEET

Fast Facts

ATF's G.R.E.A.T. Program helps combat violent crime in communities.

The program changes children's perceptions about law enforcement, one student at a time.

ATF's Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) Program teaches young people to avoid gangs, resist peer pressure and build relationships with law enforcement officers.

ATF started its G.R.E.A.T. program in 1992. ATF partners with other law enforcement agencies to bring the program into schools and summer camps. In 2024, ATF instructors are holding G.R.E.A.T. summer camps in Baltimore; Indianapolis; Memphis, Tennessee; and New York City.

For fourth and fifth graders, a six-week program focuses on their role in their communities. For middle schoolers, a 13-week program focuses on the connection between crime, violence, drug abuse and gangs. All age groups learn skills in decision-making, communication, anger management and respecting others. The skills learned in the G.R.E.A.T. program help students while in school and into adulthood.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

G.R.E.A.T. uses games to teach...



DECISION MAKING



COMMUNICATION WITH OTHERS



ANGER MANAGEMENT



RESPECTING OTHERS



THE NUMBERS



In 2023,
14 ATF G.R.E.A.T. instructors brought the program to **1,068 elementary and middle school students**.



Under the national-level **G.R.E.A.T. Program**, **15,302 law enforcement officers** have served as instructors since 1991.



G.R.E.A.T. instructors have come from **2,877 law enforcement agencies, including ATF**.

COMBATING VIOLENT CRIME

Gang involvement often starts at a young age if there is no intervention. The statistics are staggering. Homicide is the third leading cause of death for young people ages 10-24. Emergency departments treat over 800 young people for physical assault-related injuries each day. Before the G.R.E.A.T. program, there was no federal anti-gang program for young people. With this program, law enforcement officers — including ATF agents — are reducing violent crime in communities. They work directly with the most vulnerable people: students and their families.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

If you are interested in starting a G.R.E.A.T. program in your community, you can access more [information on establishing a program](#) and other resources on the G.R.E.A.T. website. Implementing a G.R.E.A.T. program in a community requires careful consideration and planning. The success is founded on the mutual commitment of law enforcement and educational agencies.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [National G.R.E.A.T. Program Website](#)
- [G.R.E.A.T Family-Strengthening Program](#)
- [Starting a G.R.E.A.T. Program in Your Community](#)
- [Preventing Youth Violence](#)

