



## **5 TIPS for teaching and engaging students with disabilities**

*Santa Barbara City College provides students a diverse learning environment that inspires curiosity and discovery, promotes global responsibility, and fosters opportunity for all.*

DSPS is the designated agent of the college to approve reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Therefore, we want to remind you of the following best practices:

1. Maintain student *confidentiality*.
  - A student's disability status is considered confidential and must be maintained throughout all interactions
  - Please conduct all conversations related to a student's accommodations privately, rather than in front of the class
2. Acknowledge that disability is an aspect of *diversity*.
3. Provide equal access to instruction through a model of *shared responsibility* to include instructor, student and DSPS.
4. Implement *approved* accommodations per legal compliance.
5. Contact DSPS and the student if providing an accommodation is considered a *fundamental alteration* of the course.
  - A fundamental alteration is a change that is so significant that it invalidates or alters the essential nature of the course, program, etc.