



# Disability Support Programs & Services (DSPS)

School Meeting

March 8, 2023

# What is DSPS?

- **DSPS is the department on campus that authorizes academic accommodations for individuals with verifiable disabilities.** Accommodations include: extended testing, note taking, disability management, alternate media, disability related breaks, absences, interpreting & captioning.
- **Student provide verification of disability and/or participate in the interactive process.** Students qualify with permanent or temporary conditions.
- **DSPS assists the college in meeting the mandated requirements as outlined by state and federal legislation.** This includes the Rehabilitation Act, Section 508, The Americans with Disabilities Act, Title 5.
- **All services are Confidential, voluntary and interactive.**

# Why Register DSPS?

- Academic Accommodations
- Educational and Career Counseling
- Highly Specialized Technology
- Access to our High Tech Center including one-on-one training
- Workshops
- Disability Club/Honors Society
- Advocacy
- Campus and Community Resources
- Academic Support (Academic Facilitators)

# Steps to Enrollment

- Complete application to SDCCD/Mesa College: CCCApply
- Complete the [DSPS application](#) online
- Provide documentation of disability if available (IEP, 504 Plan) otherwise, DSPS can contact the student health care professional and/or engage in the interactive process
- Student notified of Assigned DSPS Counselor within 2-3 business days
- Schedule and attend a 1-hour welcome appointment with DSPS Counselor



# SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

Disability Support Programs and Services

Get to Know Our Newest Academic Facilitators!

## Yasmeen Atempa



### Background

Yasmeen Atempa is a second year Masters Student at San Diego State in the Rehabilitation Counseling Program.

She is interested in supporting students with their educational and employment goals throughout their time here at Mesa.

Yasmeen is enthusiastic to be a part of the DSPS team and is looking forward to being apart of student's success!

### Fun Facts

1. She loves all things Disney!
2. She enjoys traveling and her last trip was to Hawaii!
3. She was born and raised in San Diego.

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## Briseida Cruz



### Background

Briseida Cruz is currently a Master's student in the Rehabilitation Counseling Program at San Diego State University.

Her goal is to provide, support, and ensure all students have access to all available resources on campus.

Additionally, she strives to help/support students with their employment goals throughout their time here at Mesa.

Briseida is excited to be here and is looking forward to being a part of student success!

### Fun Facts

1. She's born and raised in the Coachella Valley.
2. She's a first generation graduate student.
3. She enjoys going on hikes and drinking coffee during her free time!

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### Christian Ruffner



#### Background

Christian Ruffner is a first year Masters student, for the San Diego State University Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling Program.

Christian is also furthering his education and pursuing a certificate in Assistive Technology.

Christian is looking forward to working with the students at Mesa and assisting them with their academic goals!

#### Fun Facts

1. You can catch him surfing every Saturday morning!
2. He has jumped off of the Ocean Beach Pier.
3. He went sky diving for his birthday last year!

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### Fernando Barrientos



#### Background

Fernando Barrientos is a San Diego native!

After graduating Point Loma High School, he transferred to San Diego Mesa College and successfully earned his Associates degree in Psychology!

From Mesa, he transferred to San Diego State University, and is currently working towards his Masters degree in Rehabilitation Counseling!

#### Fun Facts

1. He loves exploring and commuting around San Diego using his e-bike.
2. His favorite foods to eat are sushi and poke bowls.
3. During his spare time, he practices playing the guitar and the accordion!



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## Sarah Baker



### Background

Sarah Baker has been working in digital accessibility since 2017, and is currently finishing her last semester at San Diego State University with a Masters degree in Rehabilitation Counseling!

She's worked at several other colleges in the region, including City College and Palomar College.

In her free time she enjoys playing and listening to music, cooking, going to the beach for the San Diego sunshine, going on camping adventures, and traveling whenever she can!

Sarah is very excited to work with Mesa College DSPS counseling and the High Tech Center teams!

### Fun Facts

1. She plays bass in a local band.
2. Her favorite movie is "Gremlins."
3. She wants to have a pet goat someday!

# Examples of Accommodations

- **Testing Accommodations**  
(extended time and distraction reduced environment)
- **Alternate Text Media** (Braille, Large Print, e-text)
- **Assistive Technology** (Screen Reader, Text-to-Speech, Speech-to-text)
- **Note Taking**
- **Disability Related Absences**
- **Disability Related Brakes**
- **Audio Recording**
- **ASL Interpreting and Captioning**
- **Accessible Parking**
- **Priority Enrollment**



# Examples of Services Provided

- **Equipment Loan/Check-out (CCTV's, audio recorders, FM systems, Livescribe Pens)**
- **Use of the DSPS High Tech Center (LRC 110)**
- **Educational Assistance Courses**
- **Tutoring**
- **Note Taking Assistance**
- **Educational Planning**
- **Test Proctoring**
- **Accessibility Consultations**

# For More Information

**[DSPS Website](#)**

**Stop by the DSPS Office (I4-405)**

**Call 619-388-2780**

**Email: [mesadsps@sdccd.edu](mailto:mesadsps@sdccd.edu)**

