

News Release

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NASPA releases resource for student affairs professionals on disability law

The 5 Things Brief highlights five areas of change that affect college campuses

WASHINGTON, D.C. —Disability laws have recently undergone substantive legislative and regulatory revisions. Student affairs professionals invest time and expertise in serving college students with disabilities, both apparent and hidden. These changes require student affairs professionals to update and enhance their understanding of these laws and regulations in relation to their campus’ resources and policies and to affirm the academic and social success of students with disabilities.

To guide student affairs professionals, NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education has partnered with co-authors Paul Grossman and Ed Smith to release its newest edition of the *5 Things Brief* series titled “Five Things Student Affairs Professionals Should Know About Disability Law.” The issue highlights five major areas of change that are applicable to postsecondary institutions. The five things are:

- 1) More Students are Covered
- 2) Less Documentation is Needed
- 3) Definitions and Accommodations for Service Animals and Assistance/Comfort Animals are More Distinct
- 4) Institutional Websites Come Under Scrutiny
- 5) Equal Athletic Opportunity is not Limited to Title IX

“Student affairs professionals have a critical role in supporting students with disabilities,” says Amelia Parnell, vice president of research and policy at NASPA. “Our field must understand the guidelines and policies for effectively helping these students achieve their educational and career aspirations; navigate structural and stereotype-based challenges; and obtain assistance in removing these barriers.”

The [*5 Things Brief*](#) is complimentary to NASPA members and available for purchase in the [NASPA Bookstore](#) at non-member rates.

NASPA's Research and Policy Institute generates scholarship and conducts policy analysis to articulate student affairs contributions to student success, learning, and development; interprets information to advance practice and policy conversations; and connects the many research and policy activities of NASPA members to increase reach and impact.

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NASPA is the leading association for the advancement, health, and sustainability of the student affairs profession. Our work provides high-quality professional development, advocacy, and research for 15,000 members in all 50 states, 25 countries, and 8 U.S. territories.