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## Accommodations and Modifications: Keys to Accessing the Curriculum

***Dana Halle, JD***

This session will focus on adaptations to curriculum, assessment, environment and instruction to enhance learning. Adaptations enable students with Down syndrome to learn using the general education curriculum with its rich content.

### Learning Objectives:

1. Participants will learn the difference between accommodations and modifications
2. Participants will understand the types of changes to curriculum, assessment, environment and instruction that can improve access to learning
3. Participants will walk away with strategies to adapt activities to create accessible curriculum

### About the Presenter:



**Dana Halle** is Co-Founder and Executive Director of Down Syndrome Foundation of Orange County. She also developed and continues to expand *The Learning Program* and *LP Online*, educational platforms which improve academic outcomes for learners with Down syndrome. She currently trains and supports twenty Down syndrome organizations for delivery of their local Learning Programs, and she works with 180 parents through LP Online. Dana also provides weekly direct instruction on literacy, math and social skills to thirty students (ages nine through twenty-one) in DSF's Learning Center in Irvine, California. Dana attended Pomona College, where she earned a B.A. in Public Policy Analysis & Psychology and the University of California, Hastings School of Law, where she earned her J.D. Dana practiced law as a business litigator for ten years before taking time off to parent her three children, the youngest of whom, Nick, has Down syndrome. Soon after Nick's birth in 1998, Dana began advocating on behalf of children with Down syndrome and their families.