

## Chapter 5 Definitions

**Accommodations:** Changes in the conditions or materials of an assessment to allow students with disabilities access to the same assessment as regular students, without changing the construct being measured or the meaning of the assessment results.

**Grades:** Symbols assigned to individual pieces of classroom work (e.g., a test or performance assessment) and to composite measures of these individual assessments that are intended for report cards. They can be letters, numbers, names of performance levels, or figures.

**Mean:** An average score arrived at by adding up a set of scores and dividing by their number; also known as the *arithmetic mean*.

**Median:** An average score arrived at by identifying the score in a set of scores that has 50% of the other scores above it and 50% of the other scores below it.

**Modifications:** Changes in the conditions or materials of assessment for students with disabilities that change the construct being measured and the meaning of the assessment results.

**Multiple measures:** In the context of grading, the use of more than one assessment to determine a student's grade. Multiple measures can also mean using different kinds of measures for any educational decision (e.g., using grades, attendance, work habits, and test scores in a decision to recommend a student for a special program).