

## Disabled Students' Allowances (DSAs)

### What is DSA?

- Disabled Students' Allowances (DSAs) is funding available for Higher Education students, who have a disability, long term health condition, mental health condition, or Specific Learning Difficulty (SpLD) e.g. dyslexia.
- Funding may be awarded for support workers; equipment and assistive software; travel and other allowances.

### More Information

- For more information and eligibility, go to the Direct Gov webpages, and search for 'Disabled Students' Allowances'
- <https://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas>
- For NHS students: <http://www.yourdsa.com/dsa/nhs-application/>

### How to apply

- DSAs are funded by your funding body (e.g. SFE, SFW, NHS)
- You will usually need to fill in an application form, available on the Direct Gov pages. NHS students apply online via the BOSS account.
- You will need to provide medical evidence.

### Medical Evidence

- Disabilities or long term conditions: report or letter from a doctor or consultant, or the disability evidence form  
[http://media.sl.co.uk/sfe/nysf/sfe\\_dsa\\_disability\\_evidence\\_form.pdf](http://media.sl.co.uk/sfe/nysf/sfe_dsa_disability_evidence_form.pdf)
- Mental Health Conditions: report or letter from a doctor or consultant
- Specific Learning Difficulties: 'diagnostic assessment' from a psychologist or suitable qualified specialist teacher, carried out when you were aged 16 or older.

### Eligibility Letter

- You will receive a letter confirming whether you are eligible for DSAs
- If you are eligible, you will be asked to book a Study Needs Assessment. The letter will include a link to help you find an assessment centre. UWE has an assessment centre on Frenchay Campus, called Access West of England (AWE).

### Study Needs Assessment

- Contact the assessment centre to book your appointment. AWE can be contacted on 0117 328 3396 or [awe@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:awe@uwe.ac.uk)
- You will need fill in a booking form, provide copies of your medical evidence, and provide details of any equipment you already own such as laptop, tablet or smart phone.
- You will receive a report following the assessment.

### Entitlement Letter

- Approximately 2 weeks after your assessment, you will receive an entitlement letter
- The letter will confirm your agreed allowances, and give instructions for ordering your equipment and software; contacting services to book support workers and assistive IT training; and claiming against agreed allowances.