

## What is a disability?

Support in Higher Education is available for students with disabilities, medical conditions, specific learning differences and mental health conditions.

**Current UCAS codes are listed below, and illustrate the wide range of conditions that universities and colleges can support:**

**A** - No Disability

**B** - Social/communication impairment such as Asperger's Syndrome/other Autistic Spectrum Disorder

**C** - Blind/serious visual impairment uncorrected by glasses

**D** - Deaf/serious hearing impairment

**E** - Long standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy

**F** - Mental Health Condition, such as depression, schizophrenia or anxiety disorder

**G** - Specific Learning Difference e.g. dyslexia, dyspraxia or ADHD

**H** - Physical Impairment or mobility issues

**I** - Disability, impairment or medical condition not listed above

**J** - You have two or more impairments and/or disabling medical conditions

## Why Disclose?

It is important to note that disclosure does **not** equal discrimination.

The offer of a place on your chosen course will be based on academic ability and record.

It is used as a basis for assessing your support requirements under **The Equality Act 2010**. Unless you disclose the university or college is under no obligation to support you.

Access to the support you are entitled to may help you to reach your academic potential at University.

It is recognised that disability is part of the whole University experience; it doesn't just affect academic studies. For example, medical conditions and accommodation needs.

## What Happens when you disclose?

Generally, the University or College Disability Team will contact you by letter or email to ask for more information about your support needs.

They will ask for **evidence** in order to put support in place, e.g. an up to date letter from a GP or medical specialist, or an Educational Psychologist Report. Check with your chosen University or College what evidence they require.

## What to expect from your University & College Disability Support Teams:

- Inviting applicants for a meeting with a Disability Advisor to discuss support available.
- Offering advice and guidance to applicants throughout their transition into University.
- Working with the Accommodation Office to ensure that, wherever possible, students access accommodation which suits their specific needs.
- Liaising with Social Services to provide specific support if appropriate.
- Assisting students throughout the Disabled Students' Allowances application process.
- Liaising with funding agencies where necessary.
- Supporting students to access Educational Psychologist Assessment's.
- Referring students for a Study Needs Assessment.
- Referring students to external support agencies for support as agreed by the funding provider.
- Arranging academic support as appropriate.

## What is the Disabled Students Allowance (DSA)?

DSA is a targeted grant that can pay for extra study related costs you may incur at university as a result of:

- A permanent disability (examples overleaf)
- A temporary disability, lasting longer than six months
- A medical condition, lasting longer than six months

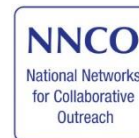
Support could include:

- Equipment such as voice recorders and specialist software.
- Non-medical human support from support workers, such as study skills tutors.
- Extra travel costs because of your disability.

The application process is the same for all universities so we encourage you to apply for DSA at the same time as your student loan, even if you don't know where you will be studying, to ensure support is ready for when your studies begin.

Up-to-date information about DSA can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas/overview>



Web: [www.Reach.ac.uk](http://www.Reach.ac.uk)  
Email: [Reach@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:Reach@dmu.ac.uk)



## Why I should tell the University or College that I have a Disability

A guide to disability declarations & support in Higher Education

