



Student Support for Specific Learning Difficulties

Designation number	LC020	Title	Student Support for Specific Learning Difficulties
Current Version number	January 2023 v3	Review date	January 2024
Published on website	Yes	Related policies and/or procedures	Recognition of Prior Learning Grievance Procedures Equality and Diversity Students Handbook
Relation to QAA requirements (parts of code covered)			
Informed by UK Quality Code – Core Practices for Quality			

Specific Learning Difficulties

What Support is Available?

The College provides support to all its students with a specific learning difficulty which will vary according to the needs of individual students. To enable the College to put support in place, the students are required to provide evidence of their Learning Difficulties. This is usually in the form of a report from an Educational Psychologist's report or Specialist Teacher who has a Practising Certificate.

Once such evidence has been provided, the College will put a Support Plan in place which contains reasonable adjustments to the way in which students are taught or assessed, these could include:

- Extra time to complete assignments
- Extra time in exams
- Extensions to library loans

Disabled Students Allowance

As well as reasonable adjustments students might also be eligible for Disabled Students Allowance. DSA is available from the funding body and pays for the additional support that students need for university. Students would benefit from the support of DSA and therefore, it is recommended that students make an application to access DSA.

Please note that it could take up to three months to get DSA. It is advisable to apply for DSA as soon as application has been made for a course.

The steps to be followed are stated below:

» Step 1

Applying for Disabled Students Allowance

The application for DSA should be made to the funding body, Student Finance England:

Getting Acceptable Evidence of a Specific Learning Difficulty

It is important to send acceptable evidence with the DSA application such as the report from an Educational Psychologist or Specialist Teacher with a Practising Certificate (post 16 years)

Please contact Student Support office for guidance on acceptable evidence or how to apply for DSA.

» Step 2

DSA Study Needs Assessment

When SFA confirms the eligibility for DSA, the student will be requested to have a Study Needs Assessment. The Assessor will discuss with the individual student cases and find out ways to make the studies more accessible and identify the support and equipment needed. DSA will pay for the assessment and the recommendations made. The assessment will take place at an accredited assessment centre with an approved Educational Psychologist

» Step 3

- The Support plan will be formulated inline with the requirements of the UoD regulations.
- The College will provide continuous support to enact the agreed support plan.
- There will be regular meetings and checkpoints to assess your progress which will be recorded and updated.

