Support available to young people in higher education

Including the Disabled Students Allowance (DSA) and the process and timescales for making an application for DSA

**DSA**

You can apply for Disabled Students’ Allowances (DSAs) if you have a [disability](https://www.gov.uk/definition-of-disability-under-equality-act-2010), e.g.:

* long-term health condition
* mental health condition
* specific learning difficulty like dyslexia or dyspraxia

You must also:

* be an undergraduate or postgraduate student (including Open University or distance learning)
* have a condition that affects your ability to study
* qualify for student finance from Student Finance England
* be studying on a course that lasts at least a year

You must meet the [definition of disability](https://www.gov.uk/definition-of-disability-under-equality-act-2010) under the Equality Act 2010.

The [support you get](https://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas/what-youll-get) depends on your individual needs and not on income.

Your course must be in the UK and one of the following:

* a first degree, eg BA, BSc or BEd
* a Foundation Degree
* a Certificate of Higher Education
* a Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE)
* a Higher National Certificate (HNC)
* a Higher National Diploma (HND)
* a Postgraduate Certificate of Education (PGCE)
* a postgraduate course
* Initial Teacher Training

Check with your university or college that your course is recognised.

You can find the latest information about DSA at the government webpage <https://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas/overview>

**You can also get support from your university or college student advice centre. They can advise about DSA or other kinds of needs you may have during your course.**