

ADDITIONAL LEARNING SUPPORT

for Higher Education Students

How to apply for a Disabled Students Allowance (DSA)

There are several reasons why a student might need Learning Support for degree (or post graduate) studies; these include dyslexia, visual or hearing impairments, social communication difficulties, mental health and wellbeing etc.

DSA and the HE1 form

Students requiring 1:1 Learning Support at Higher Education level must complete an online DSA application from Jersey Student Finance.

The process for applying begins by ticking a box on the HE1 grant application form.

If you have already completed a HE1 form and did not tick the box suggesting you may need Learning Support, this can be rectified by contacting Jersey Student Finance.

If there is any possibility that you may need support for your studies you should make sure that you have completed a HE1 form **before you commence your studies with us.**

The process can take several weeks. You should apply even if you do not wish to apply for a grant (or think you are not eligible for one).

After completing the HE1

You should send the form to Student Finance Jersey who will send you Disability Evidence forms to detail your needs.

For medical/mental health and wellbeing assistance, you will need a letter from a medical Specialist confirming your needs and for non-medical needs (e.g. Dyslexia) you will need a report from an Educational Psychologist or qualified Dyslexia assessor.

You are responsible for financing and arranging any assessments/letters/reports required as part of your application. Some of this may be reimbursed.

Once your DSA application is approved, Student Finance will provide contact details for the local Needs Assessor. You will need to arrange a Needs Assessment directly.

This assessment explores how your disability, learning difficulty, or health condition may affect your studies and helps identify the support, equipment, and reasonable adjustments that may be recommended through DSA.

You may also be eligible for technological support such as equipment/software that could help you. Some of this is means tested.

Copies of the report are sent to you and Student Finance.

The responsibility is with you to arrange the recommendations are put in place if you choose to take this up.

Types of conditions that may qualify a student for the DSA:

- Dyslexia
- ASD
- ADHD
- Visual Impairment
- Physical Impairment or mobility issues
- Visual or Hearing Impairments

Not covered by the DSA:

- English language support for learners who have English as a Second Language
- General difficulties with study.

Other support in College

You do not need a DSA to access other types of support such as careers advice or general 'drop in' study skills support. Please speak to your personal tutor if you think you might need to access any of these.

Drop-in study skills sessions are available to all students without appointment in Nightingale Library. A current schedule can be obtained via the Learning Support Department or from any college staff on Teams.

Exam Access Arrangements

If you have previously had special arrangements in exams, such as extra time, it may be possible for you to have this during degree exams also. However, they are not automatically given to you if you have had them before. You will need to speak with the Learning Support Department to arrange a current assessment of need within the first term.

This can be recommended as part of the DSA but this is not the only means by which this can be put in place.

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Visit the website for more information about University College Jersey.