

Disabled Student Support

Justine Cooper
Disability Transition Coordinator

Introduction

- Disclosing your disability in Higher Education
- Disabled Student Support at Sheffield Hallam University
- Learning Contracts
- Suitable disability evidence
- Funded Support including DSA
- Events and Actions

Disclosing your disability

Disclosure starts the process of putting support in place -
If you have not disclosed on your university application -
contact the disability team at your chosen university

Impacts of not disclosing

Institution unaware that you may have additional needs, and
this will cause a delay in you accessing support

Disabled Student Support at SHU

Terminology changes from 'Additional Learning Needs'/Statements to 'Disabled Student Support'

Support is put in place by the Disabled Student Support team at SHU

Contact this team as early as possible before you start University if you need support

What is a disability?

We support students with

- physical, visual or hearing impairments
- Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD) - such as dyslexia/dyspraxia/ADHD
- long-term medical conditions - such as epilepsy, diabetes, Crohn's disease etc.
- mental health difficulties
- autistic spectrum conditions

Learning Contracts

- Individual Learning Contracts for disabled students
- Improves access to studying where there are barriers
- Written according to individual support needs.
- Can be revised/reviewed throughout your course.

Includes 'reasonable adjustments' in the following areas:

- Learning and Teaching
- Assessment- Exams and coursework
- Learning Centres/Libraries

Evidence of your disability

In order to access Disabled Student Support you will need to provide evidence of your disability -**SpLD**

- A full SpLD diagnostic assessment report
- Access Arrangements/JCQ8 Form from previous education that has been written to outline adjustments for SpLD
- EHCP that refers to SpLD
- Letter from previous education confirming support in place for traits of SpLD
- Copy of a QuickScan Dyslexia Questionnaire or QuickScreen Dyslexia Test report or a report from another screening tool that shows mild/moderate or strong indicators of Dyslexia. Students need to pay for the scan/screening themselves.

Evidence of your disability

In order to access Disabled Student Support you will need to provide evidence of your disability – **Other conditions**

- Written by a doctor, consultant or psychiatrist including working towards a diagnosis
- An autism diagnostic report
- An EHCP that refers to Autism

Funded Support

- Some support will have a financial cost
- Most students should apply for Disabled Students Allowances (DSA)- eligibility criteria applies
- If you can't apply contact your disability adviser and they will look at accessing support through university services or alternative funding

Disabled Students' Allowances (DSA)

- DSAs are non means-tested allowances for disabled students who are either already on, or moving towards a higher education course

They cover

- Specialist equipment and software allowance
- Non-medical helpers allowance
- General Allowance
- Travel Allowance

How to access DSA

- Apply online through your funding body when you apply for your core finance (for most students this is Student Finance England).
- You will receive an eligibility letter to book a Study Needs Assessment
- Attend a Study Needs Assessment to discuss how your disability may affect your learning on your course and agree on study strategies
- Follow the instructions on your entitlement letter

Inclusive Offer at SHU

SHU are striving to create a more inclusive package for every student, ensuring that all individuals can maximize their university experience, regardless of any obstacles they may face.

- Increased time in exams
- Skills Centre
- Assistive technology

Support with transition

If you are a disabled student Inclusive Support can help you transition into Sheffield Hallam University.

- If you have a disability, contact disabled student support and they can refer you to Inclusive Support for sessions from August.
- If you are an autistic student look out for the AS information day. Date - 18th July (on campus)
- Attend a DSS prepare online event to find out more about support at SHU - 9th May or 3rd September (online)

What to look out for and what to do –

- Disclose your disability
- Check emails for invitation to register with Disabled Student Support (even if you don't have evidence)
- Collect your disability evidence
- Apply for DSA (if eligible)
- Provide your medical evidence
- Look out for contact from a disability adviser
- Attend relevant events (AS Information day, Study Ready)

Thank you for
listening
Any Questions?