

sound advice on

STUDENT FINANCE

Disabled Students' Allowances for full-time students 2015/16

Student Finance Wales is a service provided by the Student Loans Company. We provide student finance on behalf of the Welsh Government to students from Wales entering higher education in the UK.

Disabled Students' Allowances (DSAs) are grants to help with extra costs you might have as a result of a disability, mental-health condition or specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia or dyspraxia. DSAs don't need to be paid back and can help with:

- specialist equipment you need for studying, such as computer software
- non-medical helpers, for example, a note-taker or reader
- additional costs for travel to your university, college or placement as a direct result of your disability
- other costs directly related to your disability

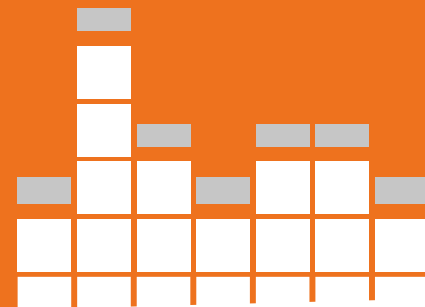
Three top tips to help your application

Here are things you can do to make sure your DSAs are in place as quickly as possible:

- Apply as soon as you can to get your extra support in place.
- Book your Study Needs Assessment as soon as you get our letter telling you to do so.
- We'll send you a DSAs Entitlement letter, then you can order your equipment and/or arrange your support.

Top tip

Attach this to your notice board or fridge



Applying for DSAs

What to do and when to do it

- 1** If you want to apply for DSAs and other student finance – apply online now. You'll be able to click on the option to apply for DSAs in the main application. We'll then send you an application form (DSASL) to fill in and return it to us.
You can also download the form at **www.studentfinancewales.co.uk**
If you only want to apply for DSAs – download an application form (DSA1F) from our website above. Fill this in and return to us.
Students studying a course funded by the NHS can find further information on how to apply for DSAs at **www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/955/page/66809**
- 2** If you're eligible for DSAs, we'll tell you to arrange a Study Needs Assessment to find out exactly what equipment and support you need.
- 3** You should book your Study Needs Assessment as soon as you get our letter telling you to arrange one. To find your nearest approved Needs Assessment Centre, go to: **www.dsa-qag.org.uk**
- 4** Once we get the results of your Study Needs Assessment, we'll send you a DSAs Entitlement letter to let you know what specialist equipment or other support DSAs can pay for. We'll also give you instructions for ordering equipment or arranging other support.

TOP TIP

Apply for DSAs early, to make sure you have everything you need in place for the start of your course.

For more information and guidance, go to:

www.studentfinancewales.co.uk

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