Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

**At:**
Sefydliadau Addysg Uwch a Phellach yng Nghymru sy'n darparu cyrsiau Addysg Uwch dynodedig
Sefydliadau preifat sy'n darparu cyrsiau Addysg Uwch dynodedig ar gyfer myfyrwyr Cymru
Y Cwmni Benthyciadau i Fyfyrwyr
UCAS
Y Brifysgol Agored yng Nghymru
Grŵp Rhanddeiliaid Cyllid Myfyrwyr Cymru
UCM Cymru
Cyngor Cyllido Addysg Uwch Cymru
Prifysgolion Cymru
Anabledd Cymru
Cymdeithas Technoleg Gynorthwyol Prydain
Canolfannau Asesu Annibynnol yng Nghymru
Aelodau Grŵp Rhanddeiliaid Myfyrwyr Anabl
Y Comisiwn Cydraddoldeb a Hawliau Dynol yng Nghymru
Consortiwm Gwasanaethau Cefnogi ar gyfer Myfyrwyr Byddar (CHESS)
RNIB Cymru
NDCS Cymru

Gorffennaf 2016

Annwyl Gyfaill

**CYMORTH I FYFYRWYR ADDYSG UWCH – NEWIDIADAU I BOLISI LWFANSAU I FYFYRWYR ANABL O GYMRU YM MLWYDDYN ACADEMAIDD 2016/17**

Mae Lwfansau i Fyfyrwyr Anabl ar gael i dalu'r costau astudio ychwanegol sy'n wynebu myfyrwyr anabl o ganlyniad uniongyrchol i'w hanabledd, cyflwr iechyd tymor hir, cyflwr iechyd meddwl neu anhawster dysgu penodol. Mae Rheoliadau Addysg (Cymorth i Fyfyrwyr) (Cymru) 2015 yn dweud y caiff Lwfansau i Fyfyrwyr Anabl gael eu dyfarnu i fyfyrwyr sy'n gorfod talu costau ychwanegol wrth astudio, a hynny o ganlyniad uniongyrchol i'w hanabledd.

Yn sgil y cyhoeddiad yn Lloegr, mae'r polisi ar gyfer Lwfansau i Fyfyrwyr Anabl yng Nghymru yn cael ei adolygu er mwyn sicrhau bod cyllid y Lwfansau'n cael ei dargedu'n effeithiol. Bydd gwybodaeth bellach ynghylch ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ar gyllid Lwfansau i Fyfyrwyr Anabl o Gymru ar gael maes o law.

O ran y myfyrwyr sy'n hanu o Gymru, mae Lwfansau i Fyfyrwyr Anabl yn rhan o'r pecyn cymorth statudol i fyfyrwyr y mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn ei ddarparu drwy Cyllid Myfyrwyr Cymru. Yng Nghymru yn 2013/14, rhoddwyd oddeutu £10m o Lwfansau i



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4,000 o fyfyrwyr tuag at amrywiaeth o gymorth, gan gynnwys darparu gweithwyr cymorth, prynu cyfrifiaduron ac offer arbenigol, a chymorth gyda chostau teithio.

Ym mlwyddyn academaidd 2012/13 (y ffigurau diweddaraf sydd ar gael), roedd 12,270 o fyfyrwyr anabl yn astudio mewn sefydliadau a ariennir yn gyhoeddus yng Nghymru. O'r rhain, roedd 6,925 yn dod o Gymru, a 4,745 o Loegr. Hefyd, roedd 1,300 o fyfyrwyr sy'n hanu o Gymru yn astudio ar gyrsiau'r Brifysgol Agored.

Bydd y Bennod Arweiniad ar Lwfansau i Fyfyrwyr Anabl ar gyfer y Flwyddyn Academaidd 2016/17 yn cael ei diwygio i egluro'r canlynol:

(i) O 1 Awst 2016 ymlaen, bydd rhaid i bob canolfan asesu a phob darparwr technoleg gynorthwyol a ariennir o dan y Lwfansau i Fyfyrwyr Anabl gofrestru â'r Grŵp Sicrwydd Ansawdd Lwfansau i Fyfyrwyr Anabl. Ni fydd y drefn gofrestru hon yn effeithio ar unrhyw ddarpariaeth bresennol ar gyfer myfyrwyr o Gymru.

(ii) Ni ddarperir cyllid Lwfansau i Fyfyrwyr Anabl i dalu am unrhyw weithiwr cymorth anfeddygol sydd heb gymwysterau a/neu brofiad addas ac nad oes ganddo statws cyflogaeth priodol, hynny yw, rhaid iddo fod wedi'i gofrestru â Chyllid a Thollau Ei Mawrhydi i dalu treth ac Yswiriant Gwladol ar ei enillion. Ni ddarperir cyllid Lwfansau i Fyfyrwyr Anabl chwaith i dalu am gymorth gan aelodau o'r teulu neu gan ffrindiau. Disgwylid i Ganolfannau Asesu sicrhau bod statws cyflogaeth priodol gan bob gweithiwr cymorth anfeddygol y maent yn ei argymell, a bod ganddo gymwysterau a/neu brofiad addas.

(iii) Ni fydd cyllid Lwfansau i Fyfyrwyr Anabl ar gael i unrhyw gwmni, partneriaeth neu sefydliad arall sy'n eiddo i'r myfyriwr sy'n derbyn cymorth, neu un sy'n cael ei reoli ganddo, neu un y mae gan y myfyriwr fuddiant ariannol ynddo.

Yn dilyn pryderon a godwyd gan randdeiliaid, ni fydd yn ofynnol i ddarparwyr cymorth anfeddygol gofrestru â'r Grŵp Sicrwydd Ansawdd Lwfansau i Fyfyrwyr Anabl hyd nes bod Llywodraeth Cymru wedi cael cyfle i werthuso effaith cofrestru ar fyfyrwyr ac ar ddarpariaeth cymorth anfeddygol.

Hefyd, ni fydd y gofyniad i aseswyr anghenion ddarparu dau ddyfynbris ar gyfer gwasanaethau cymorth anfeddygol yn cael ei weithredu ar gyfer Cyllid Myfyrwyr Cymru pan fo gan ddarparwyr addysg uwch gytundebau yn eu lle eisoes.

**A fyddech cystal â rhannu'r ddogfen hon â'ch aelodau ac unrhyw sefydliadau eraill a fyddai â diddordeb.**

**YMHOLIADAU**

Os oes gennych unrhyw ymholiadau am yr Hysbysiad Gwybodaeth hwn, cysylltwch ag Is-adran Addysg Uwch Llywodraeth Cymru ar e-bost cyllidmyfyrwyr@cymru.gsi.gov.uk

Mae fersiynau print bras neu Braille o'r ddogfen hon ar gael ar gais. Mae copi ddwyieithog o'r Hysbysiad Gwybodaeth hwn ar gael ar y wefan ganlynol: www.cyllidmyfyrwyrcymru.co.uk

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

**To:**
Higher and Further Education Institutions in Wales providing designated Higher Education courses
Private Institutions providing designated Higher Education courses for Welsh students
The Student Loans Company
UCAS
The Open University in Wales
Student Finance Wales Stakeholder Group
NUS Wales
Higher Education Funding Council for Wales
Universities Wales
Disability Wales
British Assistive Technology Association
Independent Assessments Centres in Wales
Disabled Students Stakeholder Group Members
Equality and Human Rights Commission in Wales
Consortium of Higher Education Support Services with Deaf Students (CHESS)
RNIB Cymru
NDCS Cymru

July 2016

Dear Colleague

**HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT SUPPORT – CHANGES TO THE WELSH DISABLED STUDENTS' ALLOWANCES POLICY FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2016/17**

Disabled Students' Allowances (DSAs) are available to cover the additional study-related costs faced by disabled students as a direct result of their disability, long-term health condition, mental health condition or specific learning difficulty. The Education (Student Support) (Wales) Regulations 2015 stipulate that DSAs can be awarded to students who incur additional costs while studying as a direct result of their disability.

Following the announcement of changes to DSAs policy in England, the DSAs policy in Wales is being reviewed to ensure that DSAs funding is being targeted effectively. Further information regarding a public consultation on DSAs funding for Welsh students will be available in due course.

For Welsh-domiciled students, DSAs are part of the statutory student support package provided by the Welsh Government via Student Finance Wales (SFW). For the

academic year (AY) 2013/14 around £10m of DSA funding was allocated to 4,000 Welsh domiciled students towards a range of support, including the provision of support workers, the purchase of computers and specialised equipment and assistance with travel costs. In AY 2012/13 (the latest figures available) there were 12,270 disabled students studying at publicly funded institutions in Wales. Of these, 6,925 were from Wales. There were also 1,300 disabled Welsh domiciled students studying Open University courses.

The DSAs Guidance Chapter for AY 2016/17 will be amended to clarify the following:

(i) From 1 August 2016, all DSAs funded assessment centres and assistive technology (AT) providers will have to be registered with the Disabled Students' Allowances-Quality Assurance Group (DSA-QAG). Any current provision for Welsh students will not be affected by this registration process.

(ii) DSAs funding will not be provided for anyone to carry out Non Medical Help (NMH) support who is not suitably qualified and/or experienced and does not have appropriate employment status i.e. they must be registered with HMRC to pay tax and national insurance on their earnings. This also applies to DSA funded support provided by family members or friends. Assessment Centres would be expected to ensure that all NMH support workers they recommend have an appropriate employment status and are suitably qualified and/or experienced.

(iii) Due to the potential conflict of interest, DSA funding will not normally be available to any company, partnership or other organisation that is owned or controlled by the student being supported, or in which the student has a financial interest.

Following concerns raised by stakeholders, NMH providers will not be required to register with DSA-QAG until the Welsh Government has had the opportunity to evaluate the impact of registration on students and NMH provision.

Also, the requirement for needs assessors to provide two quotes for NMH services will not be implemented for SFW where higher education providers have existing contracts in place.

**Please share this document with your members and any other organisations you feel would have an interest.**

## ENQUIRIES

If you have any queries about this Information Notice, please contact, in the first instance, the Higher Education Division, Welsh Government by email: studentfinancedivision@wales.gsi.gov.uk.

Large print and Braille versions of this document are available on request. A copy of this Information Notice can be downloaded in Welsh or English from www.studentfinancewales.co.uk.